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Which are examined and Refuted: Their Suſpicions prov'd falſe and Groundleſs: Their deſigns plainly diſcovered, in contributing toward the Disbanding the whole Army, Sending away the Dutch *Guards, Secluding Members of Parliament,* &c. *And the Ways and Means by which they Promote Diſcontents, are Detected,* &c.

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CURSORY REMARKS

Upon ſome LATE

Diſloyal Proceedings,

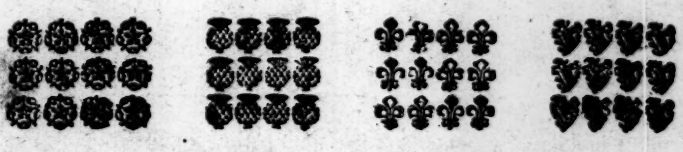
IN SEVERAL

CABALS:

Compoſed of an

Intermixture of INTERESTS.

Engl. *Scotl.* *France* *Irel.*



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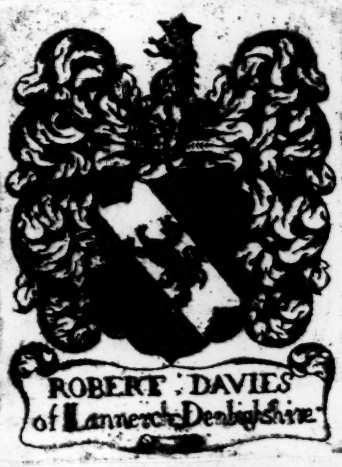

PREFACE
TO THE
READERS.

'TIS *Notoriously known, to the Grief of* Good *Subjects, and the Shame of* Bad *Ones, that the King's Majesty, at several* Cabals, *has been Treated with less Honour and Respect, than is due to His Illustrious Merits, and Glorious Atchievements: Or, that becomes a People, whose Vast Obligations to Him, should have better Instructed them in their Duty.*

But since Scandals will arise; to prevent the Woes *that attend the* Inventers *and* Promoters *of them, I have essayed to put a Stop to their Currency, by endeavouring to Reclaim the* Traducers, *and Disabuse the People, who are imposed upon by* False Suggestions, *and attempted to be Frighted out of their* Allegiance, *with feign'd Fears and Dangers.*

This being a kind Office to all, none can be displeas'd at the Undertaking. For tho' I shew how the Nation is Abused, by Misrepresentations of Men and Things, I name not the Persons, and if any are so fond of discovering themselves, by being concern'd at General Reflections, and say, There the Author meanes

us, *I cannot help it.* They are in the Right, *and I can only say,* What made them there, *they know themselves, and I my own meaning; which I take to be so* plainly *expres'd, that no* Engliſh *Man can doubt of it, or think I have* uſurp'd *a Province I had no Commiſſion for.*

If Men will do things they are unwilling to hear *of, and raiſe* Spectrums *they are afraid to* See, *the Fault's their own. They that makes the* Clamour *muſt not blame the* Eccho. *Nor they that Raiſe* Evil Spirits, *be Angry at him that* Laies *'em.*

Some Men have taken the Freedom publickly to Affront, Scandalize and abuſe Authority, and if Others may not have the Privilege of Vindicating injur'd *Innocency and Integrity, and of throwing the Calumnies upon the* Heads *of the Agreſſors, the Caſe is very hard, and admits of greater Aggravations, by reaſon their Cauſe is juſter; for if ſuch a Courſe muſt carry it, the Liberty we have ſo long and* earneſtly *contended for, is all* Chimæra, *whileſt every Man hath not an* equal *ſhare in it. And therefore ſince it can't be ſuppos'd, that any Law of* Honour, Conſcience, *or of the* Nation *can be violated, by an honeſt Deſign of continuing a* Right *Underſtanding, and a* mutual *Agreement, between the Royal Head and Loyal Members, by removing the Cauſe of Diſſention, I ſhall not be in pain about the Contents of the enſuing Pages.*

CUR-

CURSORY REMARKS,

Upon some Late

Disloyal Proceedings, &c.

THE Affairs of this *Sublunary* World, carry a Resemblance with those of the *Air*; for as in those *Celestial* Regions, there is sometimes a Sweet and Harmonious Concord, and Serenity through the whole *Hemisphere*, and at other times the *Face* of Heaven is overcast with Frowns, Fogs, and Exhalations, which hover a while in the *Air*, and at length break into dreadful *Fulgurations*, and raise a kind of *War* in the Elementary World: So it is in this *Inferior* Orb, which is Peopl'd with Men compounded of the *Elements*: Sometimes we have gentle Calms of of *Peace* and *Tranquility*, and other times nothing but *Wars*, *Seditions*, *Heats* and *Animosities*, which like the Plague Infect our *Conversations*, disturb the Body Politick, and put all things out of *Order*.

And as the *Commotions* in the Sky are ingendred of Fogs and Mists, drawn out of Fenny and Diseased *Commons*, and are usually foreshewn by *Rowling* Clouds, and the Malevolent *Conjunctions* of *Erratick Stars*; so the Troubles of the World in *General*, and of *England* in *particular*, take their Birth and Nourishment from Ill Humours that possess *Ambitious* Minds, and *Indigent* and *Malecontented* Men, who Aspire without *Desert*, Rail without *Reason*, and would put the Kingdom into a *Flame*, to warm themselves by the *Heat* on't: Or by dispersing their *causless* Fears and Jealousies through the Nation, *design* to Divide and Destroy it.

We are fallen into those *Dreggs* of Time, wherein Atheism and Irreligion, Sedition and Debauchery, seem to divide the World between them; wherein *True* and unaffected Piety is out of Countenance; wherein all the *Sacred* Tyes to our Sovereign, are as *Loose* as our Manners; and in which that *Generous* Honesty, and *Religious* Loyalty, which was once the *Glory* and *Character* of our Nation, is *vanish'd* into Disobedience and Contempt of our Superiors: For a-

mong all the Vicious and Impertinent *Humours* of the Age, as none are more *Common*, ſo none are more *Equally* Lamentable, Dangerous and Rediculous, than Aſperſing things Venerable and Sacred, and ſpeaking Evil of Illuſtrious Perſons; and yet that is now Improved to ſuch a *Wicked* Height, that he is accounted the *Witieſt* Man, and *Stancheſt* Member of his Party, that dares calumniate *Loudeſt*; or elſe has the Peculiar *knack* in wounding Authority, with *Sly*, *Oblique* and *Ominous* Suggeſtions; that can *Stab*, and look another way, as if they were wholly *Innocent*, and unconcern'd in the Miſchiefs, that are *only* of their own contriving.

Now were theſe mean and ſcandalous *Practices*, to be found only among a *few*, from whoſe weak and crazy Heads better Morals could not be *expected*, like a ſlight *ſcratch* in the Body, it might be cured by neglecting and contemning it; but ſince the Diſeaſe is grown Epidemical, and has intruded into *Topping* Societies, 'tis time to put a ſtop to the Gangreen, before the whole Body of the People are *Infected*, and grow ſick of their *Proſperity*. Next our Duty towards God, it greatly concerns our *Peace* and *Happineſs*, to *Uphold* our Loyalty to God's Anointed, and our *Obedience* to his Government; for our Peace and Safety being wrapt up in the *Welfare* of the King, and the Proſperity of his Laws, 'tis our Wiſdom and Intereſt to be *True* to both, and bear a juſt Abhorrence of all Seditious *Members* in the Kingdom, who would weaken the *Head*, to fortify the *Body*, and would perſwade us, that to *Traduce* and *Expoſe* his Majeſty, is the way to make *his* Reign, and *our* Lives happy; and that the Diminution of his Regal Power and Prerogatives, is the way to *ſupport* his Grandeur, and make Three Kingdoms *Happy*.

Theſe are the abominable fallacies, which *ſome* Seditious *Members* of our Body Politick, are putting upon the Fickle and Injudicious *Populace*, with deſign to abaſe the Monarch's *Legal* Power, and *Lodge* it in themſelves; and therefore 'tis every honeſt Man's *concern* to oppoſe theſe wicked Antimonarchial Principles and Practices, and to convince Men by the *Truth* and *Reaſon* of the thing, that the way to be happy our *ſelves*, is firſt to make the King ſo; and that to obey him *Humbly*, to Honour him *Conſcientiouſly*, and to Love him *Affectionately* and *Heartily*, is both our Duty and Advantage; whereas to caſt off that Reverence that he has a *Juſt* Right to, to *Miſconſtrue* his Actions, to *Traduce* his Counſels, to *ſuſpect* his Integrity, and if it were poſſible to render him *Cheap* and Inſignificant, which is the *Courſe* that is now taking by our *Pſeudo Patriots*, is to tear our Peace, our Government, and *All* to pieces, without the help of a Forreign Enemy.

Sure *England* is the *Unhappieſt* Iſland in the World, that can ne're be Proſperous and Peaceable, Fortu-

nate and Loyal, Safe and Contented at the ſame time. For no ſooner are we on the Borders of a *happy* Settlement, but Ill *Accidents* or Malicious *Inventions*, intervene to Croſs and Diſturb it. No ſooner are we in poſſeſſion of a *long* deſired Peace, but ſome Seditious Chymæra's, Nicknam'd *the Publick Good*, or ſome cunningly ſtaged Fears and Jealouſies, Suſpicions and *feigned* Dangers, (which if duly Examin'd, are nothing but the reſults of a Spirit of Contradiction, and diſobedience to Monarchial Authority) throws us into ſuch *violent* Concuſſions and preternatural *Heart-burnings*, that the Nation, like a Diſtracted Body, is laying Hands upon it ſelf, and contributing more to its Ruine, by its own Heats and Diviſions, than the Swords of our Enemies could effect.

Deteſtable Jealouſy and Suſpicion! How *Diſmal* are thy Products? How *Deſtructive* to Chriſtian Charity? How *Pernicious* to Humane Societies? That no Bond is ſo ſtrong, no Tye ſo ſacred, no Deliverance ſo obliging, but this deluding *Inchantreſs* is able to diſſolve them.

What ſhall we ſay? Sure ſome ſtrange *Fatality*, ſome unuſual, unheard of *Giddineſs*, has ſeiz'd and Infatuated ſome *Members* of the Kingdom, that they ſhould take Pleaſure in Affronting their *King and Deliverer*, and out of an Innate Averſion to Monarchy, refuſe to do themſelves and their Country *Right*, for no other Reaſon, but becauſe they thought the King deſir'd it. Is not this to Retort his ſignal Favours with *Indignities*, to Requite his Love with Jealouſies, and to ſting him with our *Tongues*, while he is *warming* us in his *Boſom*?

Did he not deliver us from Tyranny and Oppreſſion? Has he not Fought our Battles, and procur'd us Peace and Plenty? Theſe Favours one would think, had been enough to oblige a People of *any* Ingenuity, and for ever *Indear'd* a Prince to us, who ſnatch'd us from the brink of Ruine, and with the Hazard of his own Life, preſerv'd *Ours*, and the Kingdom.

Sure tho' we are unable to Requite him, we ought not to *Injure* him in his Honour, by *baſe* Surmiſes, and *Unwarrantable* Suſpicions, and inſtead of Treating him with the *higheſt* Epithets of Royalty, ſcarce afford him the Civil uſage of a *Gentleman*; certainly this is Ingratitude in the Abſtract, and wants a Name *bad* enough to ſignify its baſeneſs; and that it may yet appear more Black, and Fright the Seditious from *Repeating* their Crimes, by ſhewing them a Monſter of their own begetting; let us look a little backward, and trace it to its Original.

Our late *Inability* to Extricate our ſelves, and our Laws, from a Threatn'd Slavery, and Vaſſalage to a *Homebred* and *Forreign* Tyranny; and to defend our Liberties and Properties, from the Inſults and Depredations of our *own* Countrymen and Strangers, made it abſolutely neceſſary for us, to Reſign our Power in-

to the Hands of the Prince of *Orange, now our gracious King*; who wrought such a *Deliverance* for the Nation, as ought *never* to be forgotten, and can *never* be sufficiently Requited; if we consider both the *Matter* which was Great, and the *Mannner* which was kind, and both Extraordinary, and which will be mention'd with *Honour* by Men of *Sence*, so long as the *Protestant* Name shall be remembred.

His Majesty came not as the Antient *Romans* and *Saxons*, to *Conquer* and lead in *Triumph* after him, our Religion and Laws, our Lives and Liberties; but to *Defend, Preserve, and Secure us in them all.*

For this end *alone* he undertook that Dangerous and Chargeable Expedition, which has prov'd as much to *our* Advantage, as it will be to His Majesty's *lasting* Reputation.

What he has done, Argues that he was moved by a Higher Principle than any this World can afford; in overlooking his *own* ease and Securiry, when the *Publik* Good, and the *Concerns* of Christianity, call'd for his Seasonable Assistance. And

Here I could easily make a *Panegyric* upon his vertues, and equal him to the most famous *Græcian* and *Roman* Generals; but I need not set forth *his* Praises, which do so loudly speak for themselves. Nor draw any tedious Parallels betwixt His *Majesty*, and the Celebrated *Hero*'s of former Ages, since I am herein prevented, by all who have read the *History* of former times, and are Ocular *Witnesses* of what his Princely Goodness, with so much Courage, Mildness, and Prudence, hath done in this; for things succeeded so well under his *Conduct*, that we all submitted our selves to his *Wise* Direction, and put our selves under his Gracious *Protection*, as the *Tutelar Genius* of the Nation: And the *Effects* of his Enterprize were so strange, so Wonderful, and Surprizing, that had we not *seen*, we should scarce have *believed* them, which makes the wonder greater, that we should so easily forget them.

As soon as His Majesty Landed, with what *Joy*, and universal good *wishes* was the News received? How forward were all sorts af People to *Declare* for his Highness; How *willing* were they to lend him a *helping* hand, for accomplishing his great Work? How did we all generally concur, and unanimously agree, to *forget* our obligation to the late King, and assist his present *Majesty*, rather than *James* the Second, against our selves and his own Interest?

Nay, the Army it self, that now some *Scurrilous and Trifling Pens have loaded with Opprobrious Names, and Stigmatiz'd with base and Ungenerous Reflections; for doing the best piece of Service that e're was done for* England; went over to him, chooSing rather to lye under the imputation of Cowardize, and Disloyalty (which yet *True* English Men had rather *dye* than really *deserve*) than to be *Instrumental* in Enslaving their *Native* Country, and bringing it *again* under the Yoke

In ſhort, all Orders of Men, *Eccleſiaſtick*, *Civil*, and *Military*, had their Eyes *fix'd* upon his preſent Majeſty, as their great Deliverer, were *reſolv'd* to eſpouſe his Cauſe, and accordingly when the late King had withdrawn himſelf. Firſt, put the Regal Adminiſtration into his Hands, and ſoon after by a Univerſal Conſent, ſet the Imperial Diadem upon his Head. *Where may it flouriſh for many many Years.*

Now, who that ever heard the *doleful* Sighs, and Lamentations of *Engliſh Proteſtants*, when their Religion was in danger of being *loſt*, and Popery, Idolatry, and Superſtition, was ſetting up as the *National* mode of Worſhip could ever imagine, that the *Engliſh* could ſo *ſoon*, and ſo ungratefully, forget the benefit of *reſtoring* their Religion, or make any *Undecent* returns to King *William*, that accompliſh'd it.

Who that ever knew, how in the late Reign our *Laws* were ſuſpended, our *Properties* Seized, our Rights and Liberties *Invaded*, and Proteſtants inſulted by furious Papiſts, could ever think to *ſee the day*, that any *Engliſh* Proteſtant ſhould requite Good with Evil, and induſtriouſly *Slaunder* the Footſteps of the Lords *Anointed*, that *heal'd* all our Breaches, and reſtored us to *Liberty*.

Who that has ever heard, or read, the humble Remonſtrance, and Requeſt, of a *Conſiderable* part of the *Engliſh* Clergy, Nobility, Gentry, and Commons, to King *William*, (when in *Holland*) *to come over and help them*: The promiſes they made of ſtanding by him with their Lives and Fortunes, and how *chearfully* that great Prince *undertook*, and almoſt miraculouſly *accompliſh'd* our Deliverance, could believe that the *ſame* Prince, ſhould from the ſame *people* receive a leſs Dutiful and Glorious Return, than the Noble Enterprize deſerved.

Who, that has ever heard, how unanimouſly, and freely, the *Repreſentatives* of the Nation in the *Convention* at *Weſtminſter*, offer'd his *Highneſs* and his *Princeſs* the Crown? How they *rejoic'd* at their Acceptance of it, and with what *extraordinary* Solemnity and Satisfaction they were Proclaim'd and Crown'd *King and Queen of* England, could ever think of ſeeing any thing that ſhould look like a *Diminution* of his Royal Authority, or *Suſpect* his Kindneſs and good Intentions to a Nation, that he had *Obliged* beyond Expreſſion?

Who could think, that after *Acts* of *Settlement*, *Recognition* of the King's *Right*, *Aſſociation* for his *Safety*, and ſetling a Fund for the War, and a Maintenance of his Royalty, that a *ſullen, froward and ſeditious Sort of People ſhonld riſe up among us*, of all Qualities, but of no Religion, or moral Prudence, to beget a miſunderſtanding betwixt this *glorious King*, and theſe *Loyal People*, whoſe mutual Concord and Agreement is the *ſafety* of the Kingdom, and the *Terror* of its Enemies.

However; a few ſuch there were, even in that very Parliament, that had given ſuch ample Demonſtrations of their Love and Loyalty. For the Nation having then a War upon its hands, (for the maintenance of our new Settlement) with a Potent Monarch that protected the Perſon, and eſpous'd the Quarrel of the late Abdicated King; and that great *Supplies* were *abſolutely* neceſſary, to enable his Majeſty to ſuſtain the Force of a Kingdom, which by their own *Wiſe* Adminiſtration, and the *Supineneſs* of *England* in the late Inglorious Reigns, was now grown ſo *Potent*, that it required a longer Sword to *Reſiſt*, than heretofore to *Conquer* it, and in which his Majeſty (without flattery) has acquir'd more Honour, by *checking* and *controwling* the Power of *France*, than any of his great *Predeceſſors* did by ſubduing it; the Parliaments were oblig'd to lay great Taxes upon the People, and the Nation being not inſenſible of the Burden, the Malecontented *Jacobites* who were always more cunning in embroiling our Affairs, than in advancing their own, took the advantage of it, and in all Companies declared, that the Government muſt of *neceſſity* ſink under its own *Weight*, and that our *Heavy Taxes* by reducing us to extream *Poverty*, would inevitably prove our Deſtruction: And never ceas'd declaiming on this *popular* Subject, and galling the People in their *Tender* part; in hopes to make 'em weary of a Government, which was repreſented ſo *burthenſom*, and to perſwade them rather to let in the *Deluge*, than be at the Expence of *maintaining* the Banks.

Beſides this *Party* that were for King *James*, there were others, *that were for no King at all*, a ſort of *Republicans* of the old Stamp, that are for *ſubverting* Monarchy it ſelf, to ſet up an Idol they know not what in the Room, on't; and care not what becomes of *King*, and *Parliament*, and *Kingdom* too, ſo they can gratify their own Pride and Peeviſhneſs, and advance the *Dagon* of a Common-Wealth; which is ſo inconſiſtent with the Humor, Nature, Intereſt and Conſtitution of the *Engliſh* People and Government, that they might as well attempt to ſtem the Tide, or reconcile diſagreeing Elements, as think either to court or force them to ſubmit to ſuch a Form; yet however unlikely it was to expect the Peoples compliance, they uſe their utmoſt endeavour to promote it, and to this end Mr. *Harrington's Common-Wealth of Oceana*, and all Mr. *Milton's* Antimonarchical Treatiſes, and that too, which juſtifies the *Murder* of *Charles* the Firſt, and many Diſcourſes of other Authors, as *Ludlow's* Letters, and Mr. *Sidney's* Diſcourſe of Government, all on the ſame Subject, and tending to promote the Deſign of *Leſſening* and *Reproaching* Monarchy, are Reprinted, which, in their Ends and Deſigns, as well as their Authors, are no leſs Enemies to the Government, their King and Coun-

try, than the former, and assist in carrying on Discontents and Divisions among us, being such an *odd* sort of Men, and so *averse* to all Kings, that if God should send them one from Heaven, they'd never like him two days together; Nay, if they were in *Heaven* themselves, 'tis to be fear'd they'd be turn'd out again, for Attempting against the Monarchical Power of God Almighty. These, I say, are some of the *Troublers* of our *Israel*, and are no less busy in *Traducing* the King, than the *Rankest Jacobites* in *England*, and greedily swallow down any *Defamation* upon the Court, to disgorge it with a greater mixture of Malice and Slaunder at their next Republican Association. And tho' they are both in extreams, and as opposite to the *Jacobites* in their Principles, as they are to Peace and Loyalty; yet they both agree in *Opinion* and *Practice* against King *William*, and his Government, and take the *same* Methods of Lying and Slaundering, and raising Fears and Jealousies to *weaken* and destroy it.

The *Jacobites* said we should ne're have *Peace* till *James the Second* was Restor'd; and the *Republicans* said we should ne're be able to cope with our Enemies, but must sink under them, if we did not put our selves under the Regiment of a Common-Wealth, and Crown our Sov. L. the People. These contradictory Notions were both supported by their *Pamphleteers* without Doors, and their crafty and dissembling *Ambodexters* Within, who, by Asserting the War was like to be *Eternal*, and the Nation's Ruin irretrivable, were *Tearing* the Bowels of our Common Mother, and plunging us into *new* Confusins, by the *united* endeavours of those that were for a popish Arbitrary King, and those that were for *no King at all*.

But the never to be forgotten *goodness* of God, and the great *Wisdom*, Invincible *Courage*, and *inflexible* Resolution of his Majesty, having to the great *Mortification* of the Enemies of the King and Kingdom. The intire *Satisfaction* of the true Friends of both, and the *Admiration* of all Men; concluded the War with *France*, and brought home an *Honourable Peace*, it confuted all their *Ominous* predictions, silenc'd their *Clamours*, shamed their *Intrigues*, and confounded all the pretended dangers, rais'd by our Enemies. And now one would think, we had nothing to do, but to return our *due* thanks to God and the King, make our Gratitude and Obedience, as *Conspicuous* as the benefit was *Extraordinary*; to pay our *Debts*, Reward our *Friends*, forgive our *Enemies*, and under our own Vines and Fig-Trees, solace our selves in a happy Peace, and live in Unity and Amity, and in Peace and Concord among our selves.

These were the things most desirable, best becoming Professors of Christianity, sutable to our Obligations, and ought to have been the Endeavours of all in their several

Stations. But alaſs, to ſhew *there is nothing compleatly happy on this ſide Heaven*, How have we fruſtrated the Deſigns of God Almighty, whoſe Goodneſs and long Suffering ſhould have led us to Repentance, by continuing in our Impieties? How *Ill* and *Ungratefully* have we treated his *Majeſty*, who as the Royal Inſtrument in the Hand of God, has procur'd us this, and many other ineſtimable Bleſſings? And how have we injur'd the whole Community, by dividing into *Parties* and *Factions*, and worrying one another by Inteſtine Seditions? For,

No ſooner was there a Diſſolution of the former Parliament, and a freſh one convened, but *New* Murmurers, under the Names of *Old Friends*, (though in truth but a compound of the other Two) ſtarted up amongſt us to trouble our Affairs; who, though great Aſſerters of the late Revolution, ſeem inclinable enough to a *ſecond*, if their private Sentiments may be collected from their publick Diſcourſes: For from I know not what private Diſguſts, and and perſonal Quarrels and Diſapointments, they are grown Sowr and uneaſie; and to expreſs their Reſentments; in all Converſation indeavour to bring our *Adminiſtration* into contempt: To clog the Wheels of the Government that it move ſlowly, or not at all; and, in ſhort, are againſt all things which our known and open Enemies are againſt, and for all things which they are for, and let the conſequences be as miſchievous as they will, they think the more the better; and by theſe and other Clandeſtine Popular Arts, *Recommend themſelves to their Country as great Patriots*, for no other reaſon but that they would *Starve*, or bind up the hands of the Government, that it ſhould not be able to ſupport and defend it ſelf. The proceedings againſt theſe men, whither in their own *Houſes* or at *Clubbs*, are of all others the moſt abſur'd and unaccountable, and the Oppoſition they make againſt the Government, ſeems to be the effect of ſome ſtrange Infatuation. For tho' it ſhould be allowed, as 'tis a ſtanding Maxim among them that the Character of a *Patriot*, without diſtinction of *Times* or *Perſons*, is to be *always*, and in all *Caſes* whatſoever, againſt the *Court*; yet they cannot be unſenſible, that the Face of Affairs is ſo alter'd by the late happy *Revolution*, that the Intereſt of their *Country* is the ſame with that of the *Court*. However, tho' this was a Government of their own *Chooſing*, *Approving* and *Settling*, which methinks ſhould weigh much with all conſidering Men, that would not be thought guilty of *Levity*, *Novelty and Inconſtancy*; yet the Witchcarft of *Parity*, *Envy* and *Ambition* gives them ſuch a ſatisfaction in *Croſſing* the King, *Thwarting* the *Court*, and by thoſe *Arts* rendring themſelves Popular, that 'tis the Buſineſs of their Lives to make the King and his Miniſters *Uneaſy*, and, if 'twere to be done, *Deſpicable* in the eyes of the People. Now

Were theſe Miſchiefs done by the open and *profeſt* Enemies of the King and Government, the Crime would be more tolerable: or were they hatch'd by the *little* Animals that frequent Seditious Coffee-Houſes, it would be more pardonable, becauſe their Tongues are no *ſlander*; but to ſee and hear it done by our *pretended Friends*, Men of *Quality* and *Figure*, that are inEminent Poſts in the Kingdom, that have a Hand in Publick Affairs, is able to chill and ſtagger every Senſe about one! and what can theſe ſcandalous Practices be aſcrib'd to, but a deep dy'd Diſſimulation and Hypocriſy; when we ſee Men Court and Cringe at *Kenſington*, and rail at *Weſtminſter*; Hug and Embrace a Miniſter in the *Painted Chamber*, and cut his Throat in the *Chappel*; give a Courtier the ſmootheſt Words to his Face, and hang him behind his Back. What can one think, but that they were *Tainted* in their *Original*, and are ſo in Love with *Anarchy*, that they hate the King, and all that belong to him; and let them pretend what they pleaſe, from *this* Principle you can never *Court* nor *Drive* them, for the *Moor* was born *black*, and will continue ſo, in *deſpite* of all the Sope i'th' Kingdom. The Snakes will be *Hiſſing* and threatning, and if you ſhould cram them with all they can wiſh, or you can give, they will never loſe their Natures; and of theſe there are two ſorts, and both worth the Knowing, that you may avoid them.

Firſt, the loud and open *Talkers*; and ſecondly, the private ſeditious *Whiſperers*. The firſt need no particular Deſcription, for the *Noiſe* they make, and the *Hazard* they run of forfeiting their *Underſtandings*, to gratifie their Ill Nature, and *humour* their Faction, is the beſt Denomination of them. Theſe, though always *Declaiming* againſt the Government, do *leſs* harm than the other; for all their Invectives againſt the *King* and *Court*, being uſually carried as far above *Truth*, as beyond the Bounds of *Decency*, they are not like to ſucceed in their *Deſigns*; unleſs when they aſſume a power of *Talking* away their King's *Right*, they could take away the Peoples *Reaſon* alſo; which can never be done by Men whoſe Underſtandings are warp'd with their Intereſts, and are not *Hiſtorians* of publick Actions, but *Lawyers* of a *Party*: For grounding all they ſay upon *Idle Tales*, *Reports*, and *Hearſays*, they prove nothing but their want of *Breeding*, and *better* Arguments, and their *Calumnies* when driven home, will recoil upon their own Heads: For they that charge others with Crimes they cannot *juſtifie*, Indite and Convict themſelves of *Falſity*.

The *Private Whiſperers* are commonly Men of a ſuperior Quality, ſuch as are aſhamed to own their Practices openly, and therefore like Gun-powder in a Vault, do incomparably the more Miſchief for being ſtifled. For though they take *Pleaſure* to be always finding *Fault*, ever

Complaining and *Murmering*, and *Cenſuring* the *wiſeſt* Councils, and the *upright*eſt Conduct; yet they ſtill ſculk *behind* the Curtain, and look as *Demure* and *Harmleſs*, as if they had no *conceal'd* Sting, nor no *Gaul* was mix'd in their Creation, when they are the greateſt Enemies to the King and Government in the World. For though they do not ſpeak *directly*, and in terms againſt his Majeſty; yet they vent ſuch baſe Reflections, and unmannerly Inſinuations againſt him, under *double* and *Abiguous* Meanings, as *poyſon* the Ears of their Admirers, and prepare their Tongues to uſe a greater Liberty. 'Tis from ſuch pernicious *Preſidents* of ſcandalous *Babling* and Idle *Whiſpering* againſt Authority, that the *Leudneſs* of the Tongue becomes ſo epidemical in the Nation, and that the common People, firſt corrupted by *Ill* Principles, and then *Influenc'd* by the Example of Factious *Great Ones*, are grown to ſuch *Exceſſes* in their *Pragmatical* cenſuring the Actions of their *Superiors*, as is unſufferable to the Loyal and Sober part of Mankind; Dangerous to the State, and pleaſing to none but *Seditious Incendiaries*, who play the *Body* againſt the *Head*, with deſign to deſtroy the whole.

What a ſtrange Liberty is taken in this licentious Age, when every private Perſon, that thinks he has half a dram of Brains about him, ſhall Arraign the Actions of their Superiors. What is this, but blaſting the choiſeſt Flowers of the Crown, and ſhrinking the *Imperial* Dignity of our Engliſh *Monarch*, into a *Doge* of *Venice*? For he is but a *Titular* and no *Real* King, whoſe Sovereignty, and Prerogative Royal, is liable to the *Popular* Scannings and Infractions of every *Proud* and *Peeviſh* Subject. There is no Tyranny to be compar'd to the Tyranny of a Seditious *Multitude*, and the condition of our *Engliſh* Kings are very little mended by thoſe, that free them from the *Pope*'s Supremacy *in ordine ad bonum ſpirituale*, and ſubject them to the *People*, *in ordine ad bonum publicum*: For if General Aſſemblies for making Laws have but the power of *Adviſing* the King, 'tis the higheſt *Inſolence* in private Perſons, to cenſure and miſrepreſent him. Are the Kings Prerogatives and Sovereignty the only Rights that may be *Invaded*, and ſcandalouſly *toſs'd* from Mouth to Mouth, as if the King that owns them were not *Sacred*, and exempted from ſuch impertinent Diſcourſes? Sure the World is turn'd *Topſy Turvy*, and Mens Underſtanding grow *Downward*, or they could never think the *Multitude* are inveſted with the higheſt price of *Regality*, viz. *Judging of the Publick Good, and Controwling all*; whoſe Incapacity, Levity, and Ignorance, renders 'em unfit for any thing of this Nature. Therefore, if any ſuch are found, that by *Uſurping* upon the King's Sovereignty, would plead for ſuch a *Priviledge* of the Subject, the *Cockatrice* ought to be cruſh'd in the Egg, their Tongues ſhould be tyed

as well as their Hands; nay, the boyling of their Thoughts when they riſe ſo high ſhould be ſcumm'd, and ſuppreſs'd, or all will run into the Fire of Contention.

Though after all, I cannot be ſo Injurious to the generality of his Majeſty's *People*, as to think they aim at any thing above the Sphere of *Dutiful Subjects*; for their *Zeal* and forwardneſs to venture their Lives in his Majeſty's *Service*, is a manifeſt contradiction of ſuch a Calumny, and a convincing Evidence of their conſtant Loyalty and Fidelity; and my only Deſign in expoſing the Principle was to ſhew, that *Kinging* the *Multitude*, is only a *Trick* to weaken the *Monarchy*, and is imploy'd as a Blind, (by ſome that in the Courſe of Affairs, are come to have a ſhare in great Actions) to amuſe the Nation with this Popular, and *Taking* Theme, while they are laying a Foundation for their own Arbitrary Ends, and uncontrowlable Authority.

Having therefore acquainted my Reader, that the Government had Three ſorts of Enemies, *Jacobites*, *Republicans*, and *Diſcontended Murmurers*, which under the mask of *Friendſhip* were great Underminers of the Government, 'tis now my buſineſs to ſhew, *that according to an old laid Scheme of the Jacobites to deſtroy the Government*, to the Three factions already Named, are added another ſet of Enemies, more *dangerous* than all the reſt to effect it, which to diſtinguiſh from the former, I call *The Mixture*, *New Converts*, *or Seditious Interpoſitors*, whoſe deſigns having been the Work of great Thoughts, and long time. And now, as the *laſt* Game is beginning to be plaid among us.

I know it will diſpleaſe the *Republicans*, to be coupled with the *Jacobites*; our Male-contented Murmuring pretended Friends, to be join'd with the other Two; and our New Converts to be Link'd with them all; however, in the cauſe of my *King* and *Country*, that are Harras'd and ſawne by this unhappy *Mixture* of various Intereſts, combin'd againſt them, which like Beaſts of different Species, and Sexes, ſhut up together, forget their Natural Emnity, to ſatisfy their common Luſts, and care not what kind of *Monſters* are produced betwixt them, ſo their Brutal appetites are but gratified. I ſhall not value what they can ſay, or do, againſt me; for as 'tis a Symptom of an ill cauſe, when it can't bear *Examining* and that none are ſo much concerned at Reflections, as thoſe that cauſe them, ſo an Honeſt deſign of indeavouring the *Peace* of the Nation, as it don't deſerve, ſo it will not ſtand in fear of any Mens *Diſpleaſure*; and therefore I ſhall proceed to ſhew, that the Farce now Acting, is but an Interlude Revived. That the Actors under what *diſguiſe* or *Dreſs* ſoever they appear, are but *Teoles* in the hands of the *Jacobites*, and while they *Satyrize* the *Monarchy* and publick *Management*, are but *compounding* with the Court at *St. Germans*, and Re-

triving, and Advancing the designs of the Frustrated Faction.

'Twas a smart reply of a *Great Man*, when acquainted with the Danger that might arise from the great number of Men, crowded into both Houses, that were in the Interest of King *James*, he said, *There was equal danger from his false Friends, and from them that were for no King at all.* And tho' this single observation has *Weight* enough in it, to preponderate any objection that can be made against it, I hope it will not be taken *Ill*, to prove by matter of Fact, that the Supposition of there being such a Conjunction, was not groundless, and consequently that the Reflection was a Wise and prudent *Reprehension*, of confining the *Whole* danger to a *Single* faction, when there were apparent Instances, that Others were in the same *Unnatural* Confederacy.

Those Gentlemen that serv'd his Majesty in the Counsells and Cabals of his Enemies know, and are able to prove, that the Jacobites had certain standing Rules, and Methods, to govern themselves by in all their attempts against his Majesty's Government, which were early communicated to his Ministers, and daily observation has shew'd, as they have been baffled in *any One*, the *Next* has been taken up with equal heat and Vigour as the former; and now *Three* of their four *Projects* encountring continued *Disappointments*; the last, which gives us so much trouble, and if not prevented will give us *More*, is now upon the *Stage*, and great are the expectations of our Enemies from it.

The Projects prescrib'd to the Jacobites, for the *Restoration* of their old Masters, were couched under these four heads.

First, To join with the *Republicans*, and all the *Malcontented* under every Denomination. This failing, then

Secondly, To *Strengthen* their Party, by calling in a Forreign Power; and if that was unsuccessful. Then

Thirdly, To do the Work at *Once*, by *Assassinating* his Majesties Royal *Person*, and in him the whole Kingdom.

Fourthly, If all the former methods were rendred ineffectual, then *they should all come into the Government, take the Oaths, and set up for new Converts.* And this I call *The Mistery of Iniquity, that is now in working.*

The Two first of these projects for the *Destruction* of the Government, were a while kept with great *Secresy*, and practiced with no less caution and fears of *Discovery*; but as Trees when they have shot their Roots deep in the Earth, and have spread their Branches wide in the Air, every one may confidently affirm, they were of no very late Planting: So by a *Wonderful Turn of Providence*, the Confederacy between the Seditious of all Names, and Factions with the Jacobites, was fully discover'd. *Lawton*, *Ferguson*, and *Crosby*, proper Tooles for such a Work, were apprehended; and the *Lord Preston*'s Plot, wherein the *Original* Papers, and Letters of the *Conspirators*

ſpirators declare there was a *Combination* to ſubvert the Government, to *Depoſe*, if not *Murder*, the King and Queen, ſay, That this Villany was Methodically agreed, and concluded, at a Select and formal Conference * *between Divers Lords and Gentlemen both Whiggs and Tories.*

Vid. *Mr.* Aſhtons *Tryal.*

The next contrivance of the *Jacobites*, was the profeſs'd *Murder* of the *King*, and the *Invaſion* of the Kingdom; but Heaven detected the *Conſpiracy*, and the Barbarity of the Action, has ſo branded the whole Party, with the Scorn, Infamy and Hatred of all *Engliſh*-Men, that they being now aſham'd to ſhew their Faces as *Jacobites*, take Sanctuary in their *laſt Project*, which I told you was, *To ſubmit to the Government, to take the Oaths of Fidelity, and ſet up for Converts, that under ſhew of Friendſhip and Sincerity, they might gain an opportunity to Herd with other ſeditious Perſons, and do more Miſchief by their ſeeming complyance, than they were able to effect by their profeſs'd and open Enmity.*

And here I beg not to be miſconſtrued, as if I grudg'd at any Man's *Converſion* to his Duty, or thought it an Injury to the State, to have the Love and Service of the whole Community: For 'tis what I heartily wiſh, and for ſome Years have employ'd my Pen for; but when I ſee Men the ſame in *Principle* and *Practice*, ſince they became *Williamites*, as they were when *diſtinguiſh'd* from good Subjects, by the Name of *Jacobites*; you will pardon me for ſuſpecting the ſincerity of their Converſion, till they give o're the Trade of *perverting their Brethren, and exhibite* more ſignal Evidences of their Virtue and Loyalty, then yet they have done ſince they came among us.

The Sacred Oracles tell us, *that by their Works we may know Men*, and then what can we think, when we ſee the whole *Gang* of Enemies Haunt the Court, for no other end but to Redicule and abuſe it! Set up for *Patriots*, by ſowing the Seeds of Sedition! Get themſelves to be Elected *Members*, that they may have the privilege of affronting their Sovereign, *ſaying*, that within Doors, that a modeſt Man durſt not *Think* without! Contend for a *Popular* Omnipotency, and liberty to deſtroy all our Franchiſes; and *Leſſen* the Kings Power to give more than is due to their *Own*! What (I ſay) can we think of theſe Proceedings, but that their coming among us, is like Water into a Ship, not to *Succour*, but to *Sink* us; for ſuch things have been acted in days of Yore, and what has been done may be done again, if an Almighty Providence does not prevent it.

That this is the Deſign to be dreaded, appears as well by the greatneſs of their Numbers, as the nature of their Actions; for ſince the Year when this Commerce began, we have had a greater *Addition* to our Malecontents, than from the *beginning* of the Revolution to that unhappy

happy Junction. And the Trade of ſupplying every vacancy in the Company, with Perſons of the ſame Character, Increaſing rather than abateing, I wiſh ſurcharging the Factory, does not Bankrupt the Nation. That the confluence of our new Seditious Interpoſiters, does not infect us with our *Old* Plagues, and that theſe Upſtart *Pſeudo Patriots*, being added to the Number of the Old *Jacobites*, *Republicans* and *Murmerers* we had before, it had not been better for us, rather to have had their *Room* than their *Company*. For I fear if a Man might look into ſome Houſes, he would ſee many ſuch Perſons there, as would tempt him to ask the Queſtion in the Goſpel, *Friends, How?* and for what end *came you hither, not having on the Wedding Garment* of Sincerity and Loyalty.

Men that are Converſant in the Polices of Nations tell us, that tho' 'tis fit and commendable, that there be a *Reconciliation* betwixt the *King* and his *Quondam Enemies*; yet they ought not in reſpect of the *Government* or *Themſelves*, to be admitted into places of *Truſt*, or the *Management* of great Affairs; becauſe in deſpite of Fate, while *Men* are *Men*, there will ſuch *Jealouſies* ariſe, as will clog the Freedom and Confidence, that ought to be between them. On the behalf of the Government 'twill be objected, that too much *Credulity* encourages an *Abuſe*, and *truſting* a reconcil'd Enemy, Invites an Injury; for *Hiſtory* is very pregnant with Examples of Men that have had Indempnity for one Fault, and have been taken in Another with their *Pardons* in their Pockets, before the Ink was ſcarce dry upon the Parchment; and therefore we ought not to *Confide*, where the Experiment is ſo *Dangerous*.

On the other part it will be ſaid, That in common Prudence our *Seditious Interpoſitors*, ought not to *deſire* to be truſted, or intermedle with the Publick, becauſe Men can never *Love*, where they have given too great cauſe to *Fear*, and will alwas *Diſtruſt*, where they know they have *injured*, beyond a poſſibility of *Reparation*. For tho' the King out of a principle of Vertue and Honour may *Forgive*, yet their *Guilt* will not ſuffer them to *believe* he can, and that will hurry them upon Oblite rating their former Crimes, by repeating new Offences; both which, being ſeriouſly conſidered, 'tis an Argumant, that thoſe that *Thruſt* themſelves into Buſineſs, whom a *prævious* diſpoſition will not ſuffer to be *juſt* or *Hearty* in it, they may make themſelves Odious to their Superiors, by their *Haughtineſs*, and a *Reſtleſs* courſe of Factious *Competitions*, but never will or can, do their King and Country Service.

But let theſe things be as they will in the *Theory*, and like general Rules be liable to *particular* Exceptions, yet 'tis Notorious, that ſince thoſe *that might not have what King they would, have join'd with thoſe that would have None*; and ſince the Name of *Jacobites* has Walk'd under

der *leſs* Offenſive Names, or has been *Obſcur'd*, by *Mixing* in *Clubbs* and other *Meetings*, with the Old Enemies of the Kingdom; there has been greater *Incroachments* upon his Majeſties Prerogatives, than ever was before. More *Defamatory* Speeches and Prints againſt his Government, more *Fears* and *Jealouſies* created, more unjuſt Suſpicions Raiſed; and *leſs* dutiful acknowledgments of the Kings *care* and goodneſs to his People made at ſuch Aſſembles, than the King has *deſerved*, or becomes *Engliſh* Men in Eminent Stations to be *Guilty* of.

How have theſe Seditious Members we are talking of, *Embarras'd* all our Affairs, and put a *Stop* to every Good motion, by endeavouring to raiſe a *Miſunderſtanding* betwixt the *King*, and his *People*, and render him *Suſpected at home*; that as the Champion of *Chriſtendom*, has *Meritted*, and *Received*, the *Applauſes*, *Honour*, and *Eſteem* of all the World abroad?

O abominable Ingratitude, Senceleſs Deportment, and Unpardonable Retribution, to think that the King would be at ſuch a vaſt Expence, and *Hazard* his Life, to pull down the *Tyranny* of King *James*, to ſet up a *Deſpotick* Power of his own? What *Reaſon* is there to bolt out ſuch *Ugly* Suggeſtions, and hint ſuch *Spiteful* Reflection, againſt the Kings Perſon and Government? Has His Majeſty given us any Reaſon to *Suſpect* the continuance of his Goodneſs; or that he will be *leſs* kind in preſerving our Rights and Privileges, than he was in *Procuring* them, when they were almoſt *loſt*, and ſetling them ſo by Law, That it might be *Impoſſible* for any to *Injure* us for the future; No, But the Men that in a Litteral Sence, would *turn the World upſide down*, *are come amongſt us*: Influence Counſels; Preſide in Debates; and carry every thing before them: Not by the *Force* of their Reaſons, but by the *Strength* of their Numbers; not by the *Goodneſs* of what they Advance, but by the Clamours of their *Faction*: Who while they are ſetting up *themſelves*, and carry all things into Ataxy and Confuſion, Aſſume a *Supremacy*, and *Infalibility*, in all their Determinations; and yet would cover all by ſaying *they are His Majeſty's moſt Dutiful and Loyal Subjects*: But how they will reconcile their *Words* with their *Actions*, and Printed Pamphlets, is worth our Examining, ſince all their Notions and Contrivances, look with Malevolent Aſpects upon *Monarchy* it ſelf, and from that Original *Taint*, and a Deſign to promote themſelves, raiſe Undutiful Suggeſtions againſt the *King* in being; who, without doubt, if he had deſerved leſs *Love*, they would have paid him more *Fear* and *Reverence*.

The Doctrine of *Curbing*, and *Reſtraining*, the Power of Princes, when the Adminiſtration is in good hands; tho' 'twas only Calculated for the *Ruine* of Mankind; and pleaſes none but thoſe, who deſign

by such Flagitious Arts, to gain a *Power* of doing that to *others*, which they pretend to be *afraid* of, from such as *ne're* intend it; yet it was always gloss'd with *Specious* Pretences; and this method is exactly followed by our Seditious Interpositors of the *last* Edition, who always advance what may seem pleasing and Popular, enough to Wheedle Men out of their *Allegiance*; and that is,

Opposing the Sovereignty of the Prince, with an Imaginary Power in the People to controwl and Govern all things at their own Discretion.

Which can be intended for nothing but *Mischief*; for as in the Common Practice of Mankind, where any Society of Men usurp more than is their own, their Neighbours will take greater care to confine them within their just Limits; so when Subjects are Reaching after *Royal Power*, by open *Affronts*, and Unreasonable *Demands*, they instruct the King to lay the faster hold, and more assiduously maintain the *Rights* of the Crown; for if *causless* Jealousies makes people start from their Obedience, Self-Preservation will also make him *Distrust*, secure himself against *Unreasonable* Suspicions, and even compel him to Exert his Prerogative, when in Scandalous Pamphlets and Clubs, it begins to be disputed, in whom it is Invested, and these mutual Suspicions will create endless Contentions.

In a *Monarchial* Government Gods Vicegerency ought not to be *delegated*, to any other Head than what is *Anointed*, nor unaccountably *scatter'd* among the Multitude: For as *dividing* a Power which is only safe by being *Intire*, derogates from the King's Superiority, so it is *destructive* to the Peoples Liberty, as it *Intoxicates* them, and makes them stagger from one form of Government to another, till their Divisions, as a punishment of their Fickleness, at last sinks them under an *Absolute Monarchy*. And therefore this pretence of Exalting a Popular Power, can have no other end, but to create *Jealousies* between the Prince and his Subjects: For as they cannot digest the *false* Fears they are decoy'd into, without *Undutiful* Resentments, so the Prince cannot brook *Competitors* in Power and Prerogative. Thus the Seditious play the Members against the Mind, in order to the destruction of the whole Body.

All *Reservations*, of an Absolute Power in the People, distinct and divided from the Sovereign, does but *nourish* a continual Ferment, *support* divers Interests, *fill* the Minds of the People with Sedition, Curiosity and Pride, and *furnish* Envy and Ambition with plausible *disguises* for their Malice, and the Exaltation of the Factious that promote them; as was evident among the *Romans*, where the *Unlimited* Power of the People was but an *Artifice*, to conciliate deluded Subjects to the *Tyranny* of the *Senate*.

Blessed be God we have a Prince, that neither *does*, nor *intends* to infringe our *Priviledges*, or deprive us

of our *Rights*; and therefore entertains no *remote* Suſpicions of his Subjects, from whom he reſolves to deſerve none; and has given us all the Legal Securities a *Parliament* could ask for our future Peace and Happineſs. Why then ſhould any ſort of Men deal ſo *Ill* with him, that has dealt ſo *Friendly* by us? Why ſhould any Men, though but in Clubs and Coffee-houſes, ſet up a Power in oppoſition to his Majeſty's, that has ne're *imploy'd* his Power, but to protect and defend us. And yet God Wot, we have ſuch Ill *Members* among us, that are offended at his *Goodneſs*, *Surfeit* on his Favours, and are ſo *Heart-ſick* of *England's Proſperity*, that they uſe all ways to diſturb it! And though the King being a Prince of ſuch Incomparable *Clemency*, that he eaſily forgets and forgives the boldeſt *Injuries*: And to *mollifie* their ſtubborn Tempers, by many Indulgent *Conceſſions*, has endeavour'd to quiet their diſorder'd Minds, even to the heights of their own Wiſhes; yet nothing can prevail, but the more his Majeſty *humours* them, the more Exorbitant they grow, and being *Caſe-harden'd* againſt all Obligations of Goodneſs and Ingenuity, are ſtill in their ſeveral Cabals *croſſing* his good Intenſions, *miſrepreſenting* his Actions, and upon every Idle *Pique*, diſcover their want of *Breeding*, in making the *former* Expreſſions of their Gratitude, the ground of their preſent *Ill* treatment of him, and in their *Savage* Rants, take ſhelter in that miſmanner'd Sarcaſm, *What! Did not we make him King?* As if the Thanks for their Deliverance from *Tyranny* and *Oppreſſion*, and giving what they could not keep, endow'd them with a *Priviledge* of ſaying what comes uppermoſt, and doing whatſoever they have a mind to, to promote *Sedition*, in hopes at laſt the *Faction* may grow too hard for the *Government*.

Now there is ſo little in this Pretence, to *ſupport* what they would build upon it; that were it not to *diſabuſe* the People, whoſe Names they uſe againſt their *Wills*, and to redeem their *Underſtandings* from being *Captivated*, to ſuch *diſingenious* Interpretations of an Imaginary Power reſiding in them, I ſhould never have given the Malice of Seditious Men, the pleaſure of taking notice of what they *urge* ſo *impertinently* and *ſaucily*; but for the end aboveſaid, I will ingage this *Monſter* of Ingratitude, and ſhew, though *King William* is the King of our Choice, which methinks ſhould indear him to us, yet he Governs by a *Right*, ſuperior to that of a Popular Election, unleſs you will *Exclude* God Almighty from his *Prerogative*, in diſpoſing Crowns and Kingdoms.

'Tis true, King *William* like all other Princes in the *firſt* Ages of the World, came to the Crown (without mentioning his Right of Blood) upon the ſingle account of

but for any Set of Men, to draw from thence a pretence to uſe him *Scurvily*, and Treat him as *Courſly* as if they were his Equals or Superiors, is *Abſurd* and *Rediculous*.

No *Community* whoſe Conſent Eſtabliſhes a *Monarch* over them, can have power *Superior* or *Equal* to that which they have conſtituted: (provided he does not as the late King and others did, convert his Soveraignty into an Arbitrary Power of Deſtruction, which in our Caſe, is not ſo much as pretended, by the worſt of his Majeſty's Enemies) For they have *Transferr'd* the Power they had, by *Inveſting* the King with the Sovereignty by a Legal *Eſtabliſhment and Recognition*; and after that, 'tis *Unreaſonable* and *Contradictory* to Aſſert they have it in themſelves, unleſs they will make all *Solemn* Oaths, and *Deliberate* Acts, of no Validity. If he be a King he has the *Higheſt* Power, and all his Subjects, in *Whatſoever* Sphere they move are *below him*, whether Single or Collected. Tho' *England's* Conſtitution be a *Mix'd* Monarchy, *'tis a Monarchy*: And though the *Eſtates* in their proper and Diſtinct *Orbs*, are *Sharers* in the Government, yet this makes no equality of Power with the King, for then the Government could not be a *Monarchy*, more than an *Ariſtocracy* or *Democracy*: And therefore *Wiſely* has the Conſtitution *Temper'd* this Affair, to prevent *Contention* and *Purity*; in Inveſting the Monarch with a Sovereignty ſo *diſcreetly* qualify'd, as he may not deſtroy the *Mixture*, nor the People with ſuch a Power as might render the Monarchy *Titular* and *Precarious*; but that their juſt meaſures of *Diſtance* and *Duty*, might preſerve the Body Politick in Health, Peace and Vigour. Hence it is that the King is call'd our *Leige*, that is our Lawful Sovereign, and we his *Leige*, that is, his *Lawful* Subjects, and as ſuch, can have no claim above it.

But that which puts an end to this Sauey *Taunt* and its abſurd *Conſequence* of Oppoſing the *Power* of the *People* to the King's *Supremacy*, becauſe their Content was neceſſary to his Royal Inſtallation, is what St. *Paul* urges as the principal Motive to *Obedience*, *viz.* That the *Apex Poteſtatis* the power of Governing, regularly imploy'd is of *Divine* Inſtitution, the *Ordinance* of God, not only as *permitted* by his *Providence*, but as *appointed* by his *Will*: That the *Eternal* is the Sovereign *Proprietor* of Kingdoms, and though he make uſe of Men to ſettle them, according to the Method his *Providence* directs, yet the *Act* is Gods, and the King's *Authority* is from him, by a *Superior* Character, than what the Populace can pretend to. So though the *Eſtates* of the Nation did confer the *Sovereignty* on King *William*, they were but the *Inſtruments* and *Agents*, for the *Power* and *Right* of transferring Kingdoms from one King to another, as from *Saul* to *David*, or from *James* the Second to King

William the Third, *comes from God*, who is *Judge in theſe Superior Cauſes, and puts down one King and ſets up another*, and has ſuch an *Intereſt* in diſpoſing *Power*, that none muſt pretend to but himſelf. And though Men may chuſe the *Perſon*, his *Power* is derived from God, more peculiarly than from the *Giddy Multitude, for by him Kings Reign, and Princes decree Juſtice.*

And this is more *particularly* King *William*'s Caſe, than we ſhall commonly meet withal in *Hiſtory*. For though King *William* delivering the Nation from *Popery* and *Slavery*, the People were *Juſt*, and gave him what he *Earn'd*; yet 'twas the *Power* and *Goodneſs* of God Almighty in enabling him to do the Work which *deſerv'd a Crown*, that pointed him out to the *Reward*, and as it were *Adorn'd* his Head with a *Glory*, and mark'd him out with ſuch an *Illuſtrious* Character of *Merit* to the People, that they could not *Miſs* him in their *Choice*; but muſt take him as the King *already Choſen by God*, by ſuch Providential *Occurrences*, that in Common *Gratitude* to his Majeſty, or their own future *Safety*, they could not overlook him; and now ought to *Reſpect* and *Honour* him as ſincerely, as if an immediate *Voice* from Heaven had plac'd him in the *Vacant* Throne, and ſaid, This is my *Vicegerent*. His *Power* therefore ſeems to be the *Expreſs* Deſignation of God Almighty, and ought not to be *ſully'd* by any Attribute *below* that Original, but *Own'd* and *Rever'd* as a Participation of the *Divine Sovereignty*, as was intended by God, when he firſt for the good of Mankind put them under Government; which being the Doctrine of the *Bible*, deſtroys all Inferior *Competitions*, and ſtops the Mouth of *Clamorous* and *Saucy* Upbraiders; unleſs they will ſet up for *Atheiſts* as well as *Anarchiſts*, and by *Foreſtalling* us from fearing God, and Honouring the King, by abuſing Words, ſignificant in their meaning, *would neither leave us a God to Fear, nor a King to Honour.*

Another *Source* of our Diſcontents and *Ill* Treatments of his Majeſty, ariſeth from a *Scandalous* Cuſtom of Cenſuring the Actions of our Prince, keeping up *Calumnies* againſt the Court, and miſrepreſenting the Government, as if it were in Confederacy to deſtroy the *Liberties* and *Priviledges* of the Subject; which *Engliſh* Men are always ſo Tenacious of, that they too greedily imbibe ſuch falſe *Reports*, without Examining from what ſort of Men they come, or their *Deſign* in Publiſhing them; which if they would give themſelves leaſure to *Scrutinize*, they would ſoon diſcover 'twas but the *Artifice* of Deſigning Seditious Medlers, to kindle *Jealouſies*, and inflame the Unthinking *Croud* into Ill Words, Impatience, and Diſtemper, and ſet them a lingring after more *Liberty* than they know how to uſe, to

Publick *Good* and the *Liberty* of the Subject, are two *Excellent* Words, when they are *Honeſtly* Uſed, and *Peaceably* Intended; but are *Tender* Points, and *Cautiouſly* to be Inſiſted on, leſt *Seditious* Men make uſe of it to taint their *Allegiance*. And that this is the *Deſign* now on Foot, will appear by taking a view of the *Liberty* that is contending for, by the *Mixture* of Various Intereſts againſt the Government; and it will ſoon appear, not to be a *Freedom* from *Arbitrary* Impoſitions, *Illegal* Exactions, and other *Ill* Effects of a *Deſpotick Power*; for theſe things are not pretended, no, but 'tis a Seditious *Belluine Liberty* of ſaying, and doing what they pleaſe, that is ſtrugling for. Not the *Liberty* that our Fore-Fathers fought for, that was bounded by the *Laws* of Order and *Publick* Good, but a *Liberty* of Contention, a *Liberty* of Publiſhing *Malicious* Suggeſtions, and *Falſe* Repreſentations of things, that may be *ſerviceable* to the Faction! A Liberty to *Affront* the King, to *Incroach* upon his Prerogative, to *Leſſen* his Power, and *Subject* the Rights of his Sovereignty, to the *Caprichio's* of every *Angry* Intruder into *Publick* Societies, and a Liberty of *Improving* and *Practiſing* upon *Fears* and *Poſſibilities*, till they have brought us in Vaſſalage to themſelves; whoſe Hot and Fiery *Spirits*, acting upon *Falſe* Suggeſtions, can have no other *Deſign* but to Amuſe and Confound us; and therefore the beſt way to ſheild our Selves from the *Danger* and *Deluſion*, is to Judge of the *Deſigns* by the *Men* that promote them; for all the *Arts* Imploy'd by our *known* Enemies, though never ſo Artificially *Diſguis'd*, under the ſpecious Terms of *Good* Offices to *Publick*, that are but the *Sly* Impoſitions of *Cunning* Knaves upon *Credulous* Fools, to advance their own Party: And for that Reaſon, when we ſee Ill Men take up a Fit of *Kindneſs* for their Country, and appear better natur'd than conſiſts with their *Principles* and avow'd *Intereſts*, 'tis time to ſuſpect a *Fraud*, and weigh their *Words* with their *Practices*, before we truſt them further than conſiſts with our *Safety*; for the *Men* and their *Deſigns* can never be parted.

Liberty is the greateſt *Glory* of the People; yet if it be not bounded by the Laws of *Reaſon* and *Diſcretion*, 'tis the greateſt *Make-bate* in the World, and tends directly to the *Ruine* of every Community, by the known Rule, *That the beſt things corrupted, become the worſt*. *Liberty* perverted into Contention for *Superiority*, in the very Deſign of the *New Mixture*, is but Trapannig and Deluding Men into Real Slavery; catching them with *Words*, and decoying them into *Nets* and *Snares*; and inſtead of putting Men upon conſidering every thing in its *Proper* place, and one thing with Relation to another, according to the *Reaſon*, *Weight* and

Importance of the Action, before we proceed to Cenſure, it Indulges Intemperate *Heates* and *Hearſays*, and by the very Methods, whereby Men think to *Aſſert* their Liberties, they are taught by Seditious Men to *Deſtroy* them, for there is no ſuch thing in the World as *Abſolute Freedom*.

Another cauſe, why Men are not pleas'd with the Government they live under, but by a continual indeavour to *Subvert* the Sovereign power, diſturb it with Sedition, is a deſire of *Immunity* from puniſhment, in ſuch perſons whoſe *Crimes* have rendred them *obnoxious* to Laws; for it being impoſſible, as long as Men are Subject to *Paſſions*, but ſuch Faults will be *Committed*, as the Sovereign Power thinks fit to *puniſh*; the Perſons who have Committed thoſe *Faults*, will indubitably ſeek to avoid the *Puniſhment*, by raiſing a Party able to reſiſt the Soveraign Power. And as Criminals ſeek to avoid puniſhment for Crimes *already* Committed, ſo thoſe who know they are laying deſigns to promote themſelves, and their Party, which are contrary to Law, and therefore cannot arrive at their *Ends*, but by invading other Mens *Proprieties*; they will *diſturb* the Government, that they may find *Security* in thoſe Crimes, which for the future they *Reſolve* to Commit; and this they always attempt, by gaining Credit enough with the People, to Impoſe a Cheat upon them, by making uſe of the Names of *Religion* or *Liberty*, or ſome other like *Specious* Pretence to Gull them; and to this End there is a Faction now among us, that to promote Fears and Jealouſies, lately bag'd their *Pamphlets* about the Streets, *Abuſing* the King under the Name of the Court; and upbrading and reviling the laſt Parliament, as if they had been the worſt of Mankind; but this we thought was only a Liberty, taken in His Majeſty's *Abſence*, and the Interval between the Old and New Parliaments, from whom we were in great Expectations, and hoped that the Kings Return, and their Seſſion, would put an end to theſe Extravagances, and Unite all People in the true Intereſt of the Kingdom, and promoting the Advantages of a happy Peace, to which their Repreſentatives were invited, by His Majeſty's Moſt Gracious Speech, following.

My

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Have no doubt, but you are met together, with Hearts fully disposed, to do what is Necessary for the Safety, Honour, and Happiness of the Kingdom; and that is all I have to ask of You.

In order to this, Two things seem Principally to Require Your Consideration.

The One is, What Strength ought to be Maintained at Sea, and What Force kept up at Land for this Year; All I shall observe to, upon this Head, is, That the Flourishing of Trade, The Supporting of Credit, and the Quiet of Peoples Minds at Home, will depend upon the Opinion they have of their Security; and to preserve to England, *the Weight and Influence, it has at present, on the Councils and Affairs abroad, it will be Requisite,* Europe *should see, You will not be wanting to Your selves.*

The Second thing I shall mention to You, as of great Consequence, is, The making some further Progress towards Discharging the Debts, which the Nation has contracted, by reason of the long and Expensive War. In this the Publick Interest, as well as Justice is concerned; and I think an English *Parliament can never make such a Mistake. as not to hold Sacred all Parliamentary Engagements.*

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I DO Earnestly Recommend these things to You, That You may provide such Supplies, as You shall Judge Necessary for these several Occasions.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Think it would be happy, if some effectual Expedient could be found for Employing the Poor, which might tend to the great Increase of our Manufactures, as well as remove a heavy Burden from the People.

I hope also you will Employ your Thoughts about some good Bills, for the Advancement of Trade, and for the further Discouraging of Vice and Profaneſs.

The things I have mentioned to you, being of common concern, I cannot but hope for Unanimity and Dispatch.

But, notwitstanding this Royal and Seasonable Advice, so Pathetically Adapted toward the Quieting Peoples Minds at Home, the Sore soon broke out again, at their Seditious Clubs, which they frequent both in and out of Parliament, to raise unnatual Heats and Jealousies, and from thence were Artificially Transmitted to *Superior Classes*, to serve the Base and Ungenerous Ends of Ungrateful People, and putting the Nation into Flames of Discontent and

Diviſions. Theſe Meetings, as they Influence other Actions, are the *Sinks* that pollute our *Fountains*, the *Clouds* that ſcatter *Storms* among us, and here the Men may be found, as well as in *other Meetings*, from whoſe primary *Debates* and *Reſolutions*, we expect all the ſucceeding *Ills* that attend us, from the *Bold Strokes* at Monarchy that are made in other Places; and as the ſmall *Cells* in *Rome*, are ſaid to *Contrive* and *Determine* Affairs, before they are brought into the *Conclave*, and that they who would know what will be done by the *Cardinals*, muſt conſult ſome of the *Minor Fryars*; ſo there is ſuch a *Correſpondence* and Mutual *Agreement* between theſe *Seditious Clubs* and their *Brethren*, in other *Privilege Places* in the Kingdom, that he that knows what's *Concluded* on in one Place, may know what will be done in the other. For theſe Clubs being compos'd of a Mixture of Men, who having *ſower'd* all the generoſity of *Nature*, make it their Buſineſs to Calumniate the *Beſt*, and Miſinform the *Worſt* of Men; and have to that end, *Inſinuated* themſelves ſo far into the Societies of thoſe, that would be thought *Angeli Agentis in Rebus Humanis*, the great Intelligences in Humane Affairs, that they have twiſted their *Intereſts* together, and they have infuſed a Perverſe Spirit into ſome Men, that what one *Contrives* the other *Acts*, and what's ſaid of one *Meeting* may be underſtood as the *Deſigns* of many *Others*.

King *William* having done all that *Honeſt* Men could Wiſh, or Mortal Man *perform*, for the *Glory* and *Safety* of *England*, a Set of *Envious* Men roſe from their ſeveral Shades, that had been long in the deſign of Eclipſing his *Glory*; and like the *Council* that was held by the *Jews* againſt our Bleſſed Saviour, ſay, *What do we do? This Man does many Miracles, and if we let him alone, all Men will believe on him*; ſo this late *Intermixture* of Men, and Intereſts againſt His Majeſty and Government, ſeeing every day *freſh* Inſtances of his Goodneſs, and Arguments of his *Growing* Glory; in order to their main *Deſign*, united their Counſels, ſaying, *What do we do, if we let him alone, all his Subjects will Admire and Love him*: For notwithſtanding all our former *Black Arts* to *Diſguiſe* his Virtues, *Blaſt* his Honour, and *Leſſen* his *Authority*, we find the People ſee through our *Thin* Pretences, the King *Survives* our Scandals, and lives to make us the Common Scorn, and himſelf the Peoples *Darling*.

Let us therefore (ſay they) take his *Prerogative* a Peg lower, Smite him with our *Tongues*, Wound him with our *Pens*, and Publiſh it through the Land, that he is not fit to be *truſted* with the Sword: let us raiſe *Fears* and *Jealouſies*, call his Souldiers a Pack of *Cut-Throats* and *Murderers* by Profeſſion, and act as furiouſly, as if the *Calamities* we pretend to fear were felt already, and

from the experience of the *Good* he has done us, raiſe a *Poſſibility* of his doing as much againſt us; and by theſe *Ways* and *Means*, we ſhall turn his *Friends* out of the Houſe, pack off his *Domeſticks*, deprive him of the Peoples *Love* and *Duty*, and accompliſh our own *Wiſhes*, in *Reſtoring* our Old *Maſter*, or which is *as well*, Inveſt our Selves with the *Supream* Authority.

Theſe were the Pious Reſolves at a Club, held I think at the *Old Devil*, and from thence Tranſmitted further, and order'd to be Printed and Publiſh'd in ſeveral Pamphlets; which if I prove, it will be ſufficient to convince the World, ſuch *Deſigns* againſt his Majeſty and Government are on Foot; and that there are a *Set of People* amongſt us, that Promote and Indulge them, as Copies fit to Immitate.

And that I may not trouble my Reader in Raking *Old* Dunghils, and ſearching into *Pamphlets* that are ſcarce or not to be found; I ſhall take my Riſe no Higher, than the Commencement of the Peace, and begin with a *Pamphlet*, Entituled, *A Diſcourſe concerning Militia's*, wherein the Author has Inſinuated, that his Majeſty is not to be truſted with the Power of the *Sword*, and gives his Reaſons for it in theſe Words.

Page, 14, 15.

King William *by Blood, Relation and other Tyes, and Common Intereſts, has the Houſe of* Auſtria, *moſt of the* Princes *of* Germany, *and moſt of the* Potentates *of the* North *for his Friends and Allies; and can, whatever Intereſt he joins with,*

And is not this a great *Happineſs*, to have ſuch a Prince *King* of *England*, that has ſo many *Powerful* Friends, to Aſſiſt him againſt the *Common* Enemy. Can our *Aliances* be too great, can our Helps be too many? who could think 'twas in the Power of Envy, to make an Ill conſtruction of ſo great a Bleſſing, or that any could ſuck Poyſon, from theſe additional Flowers to the Crown of *England*; and yet we ſee the Clubbers from theſe Noble Advantages, have conjur'd up this Jealouſy *

* *Book and Page predict.*

What ſecurity can be given, he (meaning the King) will not make uſe of this Power, to ſuppreſs the Liberties of the People?

Ungrateful people! has not the Security been given already, in *Delivering* the Nation when ready to *Sink* into Ruin, and in *conſenting* to ſuch Laws, as a Parliament propos'd for your *ſafety*; and if after that they deſired more, 'twas for want of *asking*, if you have it not. Is not the good he has done a *ſufficient* ſecurity of His Majeſty's Integrity, and a *Firm* ground for all his Subjects *Acquieſcence* in his Conduct? Have you any Reaſon to *Diſtruſt* Him? Can you think that He that ventur'd his Life to *ſerve* you, can have a thought to *injure* you? Away with theſe *Idle* Fancies, and *cauſeleſs* Jealouſies, leſt you Tempt Men to think, you want a *greater* Security for your Liberties, than you are fit to be truſted with; and like the *Frozen* Snake, when you'r *warm'd* by an over fond Indulgence, you ſting your Benefa-

tor, which among our *Modern Nurmurrers* and Seditious Interpositors would go near to find indempnity, under the *undeterminable* name of the *Liberty* and *Privileges* of that sort of People, who in Quest of a *Popular* Omnipotency, pull down all that Oppoſes it, and *chuckle* every Faction, whoſe *Paſſion Prejudice* and other *circumſtances* contribute moſt to the carrying on that Deſign.

Now Repreſenting the King as a Monarch unfit to be *Truſted*, being the *Topping* Project, and the foundation of all that was to be *Rear'd* upon it, in order to facilitate their *future* purpoſes: It was agreed at a Succeeding *Club*, which as I take it was held at the young *Devil*, that the forecited Author having a *Grain* or two of modeſty too much, for ſuch a *Towering* Deſign, that an *Abler* Pen at beſpattering Kings with invented Calumnies, and Suſpicions, ſhould draw up their *Reaſons*, and Report their *Reſolutions* on this Subject, while the *Clubbers* were *Idle* and *Ill* natur'd enough to hear the ſame; and they having lain a while upon the Table in the *Club* Room aforeſaid, where Sedition is as commonly vented, as at the Treaſon Table in *Newgate*, *or Tom's Coffee-houſe*, out comes their Printed Reſolves in *Plainer* words and more agreeable to the *Sence of the Party*, under the Title of *A Confutation of the Ballancing Letter*; in which † are theſe words delivered.

† *Preface and Page the 9th.*

A ſtanding Army is making the Government Abſolute and Arbitrary, and the Nation Slaves. It commands all our Laws, Liberties, and Eſtates. To put this Power into the Kings Hand, is to lay the whole Nation at his Diſcretion, and therefore tho we have Honourable Thoughts of the King; yet we don't believe he deſerves this Truſt, nor can manage it Faithfully. That he has neither Merit nor Capacity, to entitle him to ſo Intire a Confidence; no, not if he had all the Perfections on Earth, as he has a great many; nay, if he were an Angel he was not fit for this Truſt,

Are theſe the products of *your Honourable thoughts of the King*? are theſe the methods you employ to ſpeak your *gratitude* for his Majeſties *Redeeming* you from the ſlavery threatn'd, and poſſeſſing you of the *Liberty* you are making ſuch very Ill Uſe of; that can like the man in the Fable blow hot and cold, and with the ſame Mouth diſgorge *Bleſſing* and *Curſſing*, *Commend* and *Diſparage*, *Applaud* and *Diſtruſt* in the ſame Breath? are theſe ſuggeſtions the *Honourable ways and means* you *take* like your *Tricking* Predeceſſors of 48, to make him a *Glorious King*? Bluſh O Heaven, and let Earth ſtand Amazed and Tremble! Tell it not in *Gath*, publiſh it not in *Askelon*, leſt the *whole* Nation be *Condemn'd*, and *included* in the Guilt of a Few *Seditious* and *Ungrateful Members*, that having received the benefit of their Deliverance from his goodneſs durſt not truſt him with an Army to De-

fend their *Liberties*, but would take the Sword from this *Prince*, and force it upon the *Peop'e*, from whom, if they Govern themſelves by the leading Maxims, and *Humor* now in Vogue and ſtriving to be uppermoſt; there is more Danger of a *Rebellion*, than of the Prince's aſſuming a *Deſpotick* Power!

Sure theſe Gentlemen's *Conſtitutions* are over Run with the *Scurvy* or *Atra Bilis*, for none ſee Fantoms and Dread Imaginary Dangers like Hypocondraick Enthuſiaſts; or elſe they would ne'er have rais'd ſuch Mean Falſe and Diſhonourable *Reflections* upon a Prince, whoſe *Merits* have given him a Name, Superior to all the *Titles* upon Earth; and earn'd him the *Intire* Truſt, and *Unalienable* Duty of all his Subjects.

What? has not King *William* deſerv'd this Truſt? O Impious Calumny, Horrible Slander, Groundleſs Suſpition, that is daily confuted by *Experience*, and cold be vended by none but whoſe *Avowed* Deſigns, are for doing *further* Miſchief! What's become of the *Old* Engliſh Senſe of Favours, and Gratitude to Kings that *Delivered* them from Tyranny? Is it all dwindled into *Popular* Caprichio's, and *ſhrunk* up into *Janiſarian* Privilegies? Has exempting us from the Fears of *Jailes*, *Inquiſions* and *Smithfield Fires*, cauſed theſe clandeſtine *Reproaches*. Has the Reſtoring our *Religion*, that ought to be *Dearer* than our *Lives*, deſerved no better acknowledgement? Has the *purchaſe* of our Peace, and *Liberty* to enjoy it with ſatisfaction, *merited* no more dutiful returns than to affront his Majeſty with their cauſeleſs Fears, retort his Kindneſs with hated Jealouſies, and ſully his Candour with vile Suſpicion?

Yes, Replies the Authors of them † *we have Truſted the King with all we had.* † Page 8. *All the Rights of an Engliſh King, as the Imperial Crown, with all Dominions, Juriſdictions, Prerogatives, and Preheminencies there unto belonging*: And yet in the concluſion ſays, *He ought not to be Truſted with the Sword* (which he calls a ſtanding Army, tho the other Author calls it as I do) *for fear of enſlaving the Nation*: and in ſaying that, he might as well have left out all the Reſt; for the power of the Sword, which is a very extenſive Word, is as much the *King*'s *Right*, and as firmly Inveſted in him *by Law*, as any other of the Appendices as the *Crown*; and ſince there are ſo many *Lawyers*, that are the Leading men in theſe *Clubs*, it looks *ill* they ſhould forget it.

And as to giving the Crown let the Poet anſwer for me.

As for the Crown you have beſtow'd,
With all its Limitations:
The meaneſt Prince in Chriſtendom,
Would never Stir a Mile from Home,
To Govern Three ſuch Nations.

For

For if the Sword from'th King's with held,
Which Laws have made his Own:
Who knows but when the Megrim works,
Such wavering Chriſtians may like Turks,
Employ't againſt the Crown?

Self Preſervation is a Principle in *Nature* never to be dropt, and by the ſame rule that men ſuſpect, they give *cauſe* to be ſuſpected: which is only applicable to thoſe that have rais'd the *Mormo's*; for all the Leige and Loyal Subjects of *England*, that are True, and ſtedfaſt to the King upon Rules of *Honour*, and *Conſcience*, had rather die if occaſion ſhould require it, than hear his Majeſty *Traduced* or *Suſpected*. They ſay His Majeſty has *deſerved* more than *England* has to give: has *merited* the *Intire* Confidence and Obedience of his People: and that after all the *Experience* we have had, to grow ſuſpicious of his *Good* Intentions, is to Revile his *Vertues*, grow *weary* of our own happineſs, expoſe our ſelves to *Danger*, and Affront the Common *Sence* of mankind.

But *Seditious* men ſeldom do their work by halves, and therefore as if it were not ſufficient to *Unking* his Majeſty, they indeavour to *Unman* him alſo, by ſaying *He has no capacity for ſuch a Truſt*: to which I'll make no anſwer; for ſuch efforts do not *Blaſt* but *Brighten*, and they that have the *confidence* to Aſſert that, will *Boggle* at nothing, therefore like men that deny *firſt Principles*, they are to be confuted with *Scorn and Taciturnity*: All the World admire the ſtrength of his Judgment, Ability of his Mind, and Dexterity of his Parts, which I dare not undertake to deliniate; for to do it by the *common* Topicks of compariſon, would be a *Diminution* of his *Greatneſs*, and to form a juſt Idea of his Royal *Perſonal Capacities*, or venture upon his *Character*, requires a Soul as great as his Own, and it would be a Prophanation in any vulgar Hand to attempt it: Silence and Admiration, beſt commend things above the Sphere of our Capacities.

Next, to ſcare People out of their Duties, as 'tis the common practice of all Seditious Conventicles, to ranſack Stories for *Memorable Accidents*, and *Prodigies*, and having calculated them for this *Meridian*, a muſe people with a ſuperſtitious *belief* that the ſame *Events* muſt follow: So our Author (to the credit of his Learning) telis us from Mr. *Knox* a lamentable ſtory, to fright both Sexes out of their Allegiance. *Viz.* † *That in the Kingdom of* Ceilon *there was a King.* Strange! *and that King had a Standing Army too.* Prodigious! *and his Subjects were wont to call him by a name that ſignified next to God.* Horrible and Dangerous! *and the people were ſuch ſlaves, that they durſt not ſpeak to him in the firſt Perſon* (Singular Number

† Page 13.

Preter perfect Tence and Indicative Mood) *and say, I did so or so, but Baulagaut the Limb of a Dog did so.* Betrayers of their Liberties! *and if the King ask'd 'em how many children they had, they swer'd the limb of a Dog has so many an-Puppy-dogs, and so many Bitch Puppies.* Officers and Men that had Places at Court I warrant them! And from this poor crawling Fancy, ridiculous in its application, and unpardonable for its Wit, he takes occaon to fall into a fit of Devotion, and *gives God thanks that we were not born Puppy-dogs*: and I wonder when his hand was in and his eyes up, he did not prescribe the *Remedy* to his Majesties Subjects, to bring the King to Reason, and redress all these Mis-managements and Grievances, *viz. Rebellion*; for that he saies *cur'd the King of Ceilon, from* * *attempting to make himself the Rickety Head of a Languishing Body.*

* Preface.

This story big with an ill design, as silly as it looks, was strangely *Admir'd* by the *Party*, and tho calculated for nothing but Fools and Fire-sides, furnished them with new matter against the Court, and the whole Faction was so full of that Whim, that it larded all their Discourses: and you could hear of nothing but of Slavery, and *Baulaugautizing*, Arbitrary Power and Puppy-dogs. The *Lobby*, the Painted-Chamber, and Court of Request Rung with the dull Fancy; and those that were not in the *Mixture*, in the language of our Modern *Bullies*, and *New Converts*, were all Sons of Bitches. Fine language, but this is their way of Arraigning the *Faith* of Kings and frighting *timerous* Souls from their Duty.

The Great Point of Slandering the King with Jealousies and Suspicions being thus far advanced, they re-assume the former debate, about the *Power of the Sword*, and at a Club held I think at the *Rose*, or the the Long-dog at *Westminster*, I am not certain which, the question being put, it was Resolved *Nemine Contradicente*, and publish'd in a Pamphlet called a *Discourse concerning Militia's* † *That nothing is so essential to the Liberties of the people, as placing the Power of the Sword in the Hands of the Subject.*

† Page 6.

And now you see what this *Inter mixture* of Interests would be at, and what their Pretences of *Liberty* amounts to, *viz.* to *tye up the Kings hands, and to Arm their Own* with the power of the Sword, and then *Good Night Land-Lord.* Either we must have one *Popish* King, or Four Hundred *Arbitrary* Sovereignes; and of these two evils which is most *Eligible*, is as great a difficulty to *Determine*, and therefore I'll return. I wonder when these Gentlemens *Pens* were in, or their *Mouths* open in the *Club*, they did not claim the *Crown* also; for that would have stopt many a *Wide* Gap in their Fortunes: and 'tis as *essentially necessary* that they should be both in one hand, as that *Majesty* should have

a ſufficient *Power* to defend it ſelf: For as times go, and Subjects which have found *Protection* from their Prince, and have no juſt grounds to *ſuſpect* any prejudice from him in their Laws, Liberties, or Eſtates; yet enter into *Diffidence* of him, and being led by *Paſſion*, *Falſe Conſequences*, *Envy*, *or Ambition*, indeavour to *Subvert* his Government; 'tis *eſſentially neceſſary* for his ſafety that the *Sovereign* Prince ſhould be *Arm'd* with ſomething more than his own *Innocency and Integrity*, to repreſs Seditious, Aſpiring, and Unreaſonable Subjects: But to return from this Digreſſion, let me ask theſe Gentlemen a ſhort Queſtion or two. Firſt,

Since things are not ripe enough yet, for the *Inter-mixture* to tell their *Names*, appear in their own *Dreſs*, and *ſay*, if they could *wreſt* the Sword out of the hands of *King William* they would reſtore it to the late King *James*: which tho firſt in the *Intention* of giving theſe diſturbances, muſt be laſt in *Execution*. I would fain know ſince their are ſo many Factions among us, and all tho fit for nothing elſe imagine they are capacitated to Govern, to what *ſort* of people in *England*, they would commit the *Power* they are contending for, and whether they have conſider'd the *Impracticableneſs* and *Danger* of this *baſted* Project. Will they commit it to the Papiſts, to the Church of *England*-men, the Presbyterians, the Independents, the Anabaptiſts, the Fift Monarchiſts, the Socinians, the Muggletonians, or the Quakers; and whether their diſappointment would not be equal to their folly. For if they ſhould give it to the *Papiſts*, they'd Reſtore it to King *James*, and that would diſpleaſe, as well as expoſe the *Williamites*. If they ſhould commit it into the Hands of the ſtanch *Church of England-men*, they would be ſure to give it again to *King William*, and that would enrage the *Jacobites* and *Republicans*. If they ſhould give it to the *Presbyterians*, they'd keep it *Themſelves* and ſet up a *Common-wealth*, ſeiſe the Kings and the Church Lands, and diſoblige the *Monarchiſts* and Epiſcopal Party. If they give it to the *Independants*, inſtead of beating the *Sword* into Plow-Shares, they'd hammer it into *bloody Axes*. In ſhort the *Anabaptiſts* would demean themſelves here, as they did to the *Princes* of *Germany*. The *Chiliaſts* would keep it in their own hands till *Chriſt* came; and the *Socinians* would *Dethrone* him from being a *King* as well as from being a *God*: the *Muggeltonians* would bleſs none but themſelves with *Offices*, and Curſe all the world beſides with *Incapcity* and *Poverty*, and the *Quakers* have been ſo accuſtom'd to heave the *Glaſs* and *Nogging* to their *Heads*, that they'd let the *Sword* drop out of their *hands*, and ſuffer all (like themſelves) to run into *confuſion*. And this *Game* having been once plaid already, till each Vigorous Pretender had ſupplanted the other, and at laſt were found to ſettle on the Antient Baſis

Monarchy: Till they can Agree where to place it more beneficially to the conſervation of our True Liberty. *'Tis beſt to let it remain quietly in the hand where it is.*

The Gentleman that publiſhed *Conſiderations upon the choice of a Speaker*, has told us † 'twas the Obſervation of the Lord *Burleigh*, (and he was counted a very Wiſe man) *That* England *can never be thoroughly ruin'd but by a Parliament*, and I believe the Antimonarchical Clubbers, who make ſuch deſperate ſtoops at the *Regal* Power, and would leave his Majeſty nothing but an empty Name think ſo too. For the *F*'s the *H*'s and *Others* that ſet up for the vanity of Speaking Long and Impertinently, having talked themſelves out of *Breath*, and the whole Audience out *Patience*, about *where the Power ſhould be placed*, the Club came to this Reſolution, which is Publiſhed in a Virulent Pamphlet, call'd, *Conſiderations upon the State of the Navy Conſidered.* † *That if the Grievances continue, the Commons may at laſt be forc'd to take the management of the Navy, and Dependant Offices into their own Hands; by appointing Commiſſioners of their own, and this ſeems Rational enough, that thoſe that are at the charge, ſhould ſuperintend the management of the Affair.*

† Page 1.

† Page 16.

All proceedings have their courſe and train, and by the Wake men ſteer, you may eaſily gueſs to what Port they are Bound. The Deſigns of theſe men by their Working, is to *ſhake* our Fundamental Eſtabliſhment, and under the appearance of *Liberty*, to ſhrivel his preſent Majeſty into an Emperor of the Moon, and therefore *trace thoſe* meaſures in which others of the ſame kidney were *ſucceſsful*, in hopes of the ſame Event, and will run from one degree of Wickedneſs to another, till they have obtained what they aimed at. Their laſt demand related to the *Land Force* only, and now to ſhew they'll ne'er be ſatisfied with any thing, till they have poſſeſſed themſelves of *All*. The Management of the *Navy*, and Dependant Offices, muſt be ſeis'd into the *Parliaments Hands*, which being agreed on by all ſides to be the *Strength of the Kingdom*, you may gueſs how *unreaſonable* they are, and what *uſage* his Majeſty muſt expect. See by what *Tricks* they introduce their Scheme of *Subverting* the Government: for as if they believed the Lord *Burleigh*'s Notion, what they *Lurch* from the King, they would beſtow upon the Parliament for *that end*, and no queſtion but with the ſame deſign at bottom of it, as their Fore-fathers had in advancing the *Rump*: make them their *Tools* to ruin the King, and then turn them out of *Doors*, and erect a Frippery of their own. They are very kind Souls, and would give the Parliament what they *Won't* accept as they are *Wiſe* and *Can't* accept, while they continue the Character of being his Majeſty's moſt Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Com-

mons Aſſembled in Parliament.

This ſeeming kindneſs to the *Parliament*, is but a Trick of the old Trade, to *Leſſen* the King's Authority; for inveſting the Parliament *with the Supream Authority of* England, is as great an Error, as the deſign to make them ſo is miſchievous, for they muſt Meet, and Sit, and Act, as Subjects, and under that denomination, 'tis nonſence to call them *the Supream Authority*. They that would make the Parliament *greater* than they are, do but ridicule their *Juſt Authority*; and new minting phraſes, to take away their Subordination, is only intended to raiſe Heats and Animoſities in the Kingdom. I know 'tis one piece of Seditious Mens Policy, to repreſent thoſe that truly love and faithfully ſerve his Majeſty as if they were *Enemies* to Parliaments; but herein they act like *Pliny*'s malicious Animals, that had their *Poyſon* in their *Tongues*, and their *Gall* in their *Ears*, and will neither ſpeak nor hear but what ſets men at variance. There is no body of men ſo Univerſally and Abſolutely good, that it can be any harm *to wish ſome of them were better*. Nor is it any diſparagement to mens underſtandings, to ſay *they are not always Infallible*, nor no *ill* wiſh that no men *would act as if they were ſo*. Our *English* Parliaments are the happieſt Conſtitution in the World, and notwithſtanding all their *Faults* and *Exciſes* which have given great *Diſſatisfactions* to the conſidering and ſober people of *England*, and have been ſometimes very troubleſome to the *Supream Authority* by a peculiar *Fondneſs* of their own *Notions*; yet they are to be had in great Veneration, and will be ſo by all that underſtand themſelves: Whereas thoſe *Seditious* men, that would cloath them with a *Politicial Omnipotency*, and rob the *King* to enrich the *Parliament*, are the greateſt Enemies to the Conſtitution.

The reaſon why the Parliament ſhould take upon them the Executive part of the *Government*, as their factious Authors would have them, is becauſe *they that are at the charge ought to ſuperintend the Affair*, which is a Notion ſo injurious to our *Conſtitution* that it overthrows the *Structure*, and *levels* all before it. For tho' there are ſome *ill* inſtructed men, that have boldly diſputed for a *Co-ordinate* Power in the Parliament; yet till the publication of theſe reſolves no Bayard has been ſo blind, nor Wretch ſo impudent (pardon the Expreſſion) as to give them the whole *Executive* part alſo. Every Parliamentary Addreſs, and all our Laws ſpeak the contrary. For when according to their duty, they have propos'd what is requiſite to be done, *they pray his Majeſty to take care that it may be Executed*, now the Power theſe men aſſume, in delegating the King's *Prerogative* to the Parliament, is no leſs injurious to their *Honour*, than *Prejudicial* to the *King*; for the Inference they ſuborn to colour the *Preſumption*, is no leſs than if they had ſaid in plain words, *ſince*

you have the power of the King's Purse strings: Puzzle his Affairs: Cross all his Politicks: Tire him with troublesome Tacks: Confound his Ministers with cross purposes: Deny him what you think he desires: Advance whatever you think will displease him: Take advantages of the necessities of the Crown and Creditors wanting their Money: Keep the Exchequer Poor, and as the word is, *let him know Who and Who's together: and in fine, compell him to buy supplies at the price of his Soveraignty, and Establish your selves perpetual Dictators, the Power's your own and now's the time to Exert it.*

What Barbarous Humours, and Unnatural Presumptions govern these Seditious Clubbers, who would *tempt* the Parliament to embarrass the King's Affairs, and take the whole *Administration* of the Government into their hands, which is the King's Right by all the Laws of *England*, and because they have a *joint* Privilege of granting supplies, would invest them with the *Supreme Authority of the Nation*, to controul and govern all things at their discretion, which is an *Error* as great as the design to *promote* or *Engross* it is *Mischievous*; for the Parliaments have no such *Unlimited* Power, and only act in *concurrence* with the King. For as the King cannot raise *Taxes* without consent of Parliament, so the *Parliament* cannot do it without the King. *Laws* do not take their *Obliging* Force from the Quality of those that Devise them; but from the *Regal Power* that enlivens them from Dead Letters into speaking *Laws*. 'Tis the Royal *Le Roy Le Veult, the King will have it so*, which is the Imperative Sentance that gives ev'ry Law a Being, and is Pronounced in *Passing* every Act of Parliament. So that these bold Donatives and Demands, Illegal Suppositions, and Vexatious Disputes, are so far from asserting the Peoples *Right*, as is pretended, that they utterly *destroy* them by unwarrantable *Encroachments* and *Additions*, and in the whole are but the *froth of Seditious Intermedlers*, the Transports of wild desires, and the Gratification of some unreasonable Men, *that never did, nor never will do good to* England, *till they govern themselves by better Principles, and prove their Conversions real, by more Loyal Practices.*

Hitherto I have only shew'd you what the *Mixture of various Interests* have been *Plotting*, towards the Accomplishing their *Main* design of *Subverting* the Government, and reducing the Nation into a State of War and Confusion, which some will think are Crimes too *Black* to be heard of among Christians; but so degenerate is the Age, and so Abominably Wicked are this sort of of People, that that which precedes is nothing to the *Tragical* Scene that that is open'd in the aforecited Pamphlet † *viz.*

† P. 13, 14.

The Government is built upon this Foundation, that Kings are accountable to their Subjects, and that upon Forefalture, of their own Free Will and Power, they may proceed to a new E-

lection

lection, and place one more Righteous upon the Throne.

A Bold and Impudent Assertion, and as far from *Truth* in the Design of our Laws, as light is from darkness, and the Club that vomited up this *Position*, and the Men that do Comment upon it by their *Practices*, act like People *spotted* with the Plague, being *Incurable* themselves they have yet the pleasure left of Infecting others, which I shall endeavour to Antidote by shewing that *Extraordinary* Proceedings are not to be produced as *Presidents*, but upon the same occasions, for the Laws of *England* have taken such care of the King, and his Authority, that they have made his Person *Sacred*, and his Rights *Invoilable* ; but that I suppose which misleads people into that pernicious Error, is *Misconstruing* the Proceedings against the late King, which is as full a confutation of that Principle, as can be imagined, if rightly apprehended. for that the *Honourable Convention* might not seem to make Dangerous *Presidents* to Posterity, give the people a *Scandalous* Authority, or render the Monarchy of *England Precarious*, and not worth Acceptance; they Cautiously and Honestly avoided such *Pretences*, and settled the Nation * upon *the Express Renounciation of James the Second, his voluntary withdrawing himself out of the Kingdom, and the Necessity of providing for the Nation when the Throne was Vacant*, and therefore would never depart from the words *Abdication* and *Vacancy of the Throne*. So that what the *Convintion* did upon that Extraordinary Occasion, was when the late King went hence, but shutting the door after him, which the *Mixture* of Various Interests are now endeavouring to open, with *Pick locks* of their own inventing, and I question not, but if they had *Power* to their *Will*, they would make use of *Betty*'s also. For, whereas some modester Men build this Popular Notion only, upon a King's open violation of the *Original Contract*, converting his *Sovereignity* into a power of *Destruction* and restrain that also to Cases *Apparent, Evident, and Certain*, these wretched Men, having none of these things to pretend against King *William*, threaten the Nation with the *Dissolution* of their *Monarchy*, for no other cause than the *Mismanagements* of the Ministery and for that reason only say, * Page 14. 'tis time *to think of another form of Government*, which sums up their *Designs* in a few words, and calls for a Parliamentary Prevention, lest men under the apprehension of the Danger threatned, should be tempted to think *that the Evils they neglect they tolerate*, which God forbid!

* *Vid.* Vote of the Convention, of *Jan.* 28. 1688.

Having thus discover'd the Designs of the *Mixture*, let us look into the Causes they Assign to *justifie* their Practices. And here I incounter such palpable *Contradictitions*,

that would give me more trouble to find out a *Method*, *than* Matter to refute them, if I were not obliged to them for preſcribing one, Fears, Jealouſies, and Suſpicions, are the unhappy Parents of their Lewd proceedings againſt his Majeſty and Government, and yet almoſt in the ſame breath, confeſs they are *ſecur'd* from all apprehenſions of Danger during *his Reign*. So that by their own acknowledgement, their *Fears are fooliſh*, *their Jealouſies cauſleſs*, *their Suſpicion Undeſerved*, and makes it my task to *prove* them ſo, which I ſhall do very briefly.

'Tis a true, but unhappy Character of a particular Reigning Faction againſt Monarchy, that they are ſo given to *Leaſing*, that though they had truth on their ſide, yet 'twould never pleaſe them, 'till they had *dreſs'd* it up, and *ſet* off, with all the colours of *Folly*, *Falſhood*, and *Calumny*, and in much larger meaſure muſt we expect theſe additions, when all theſe joyn'd with prejudice promotes them. What can we think more *Ridiculous*, than ſpreading inſinuations *that the King is not in the Intereſt of his People*, which is ſuch a plain *Contradiction*, they might as well have ſaid he was *divided from himſelf*. For their own Conſciences, if they have any, and they would give them leave to ſpeak, muſt ſay that in all the Circumſtances of his Majeſty's Hiſtory, he has ſo *Abated* his own *Grandeur*, ſo *bountifully* ſcatter'd his *Favours* amongſt us, and ſo *little* conſidered himſelf, that no King ever did ſo much, no mortal Man could *do more*, to convince the World, that as he had no other Intentions in his coming hither, than to preſerve our Religion, Laws, and Liberties; ſo it has been his endeavour ever ſince, by a Juſt Adminiſtration, and even Ballancing all Intereſts at home, and expoſing his dear Life Abroad, to advance the Welfare and Glory of the Nation, as you might have heard from his Royal Mouth, in his moſt graicous Anſwer to the Commons, Addreſs'd *March* 25. 1699.

'I came hither to reſtore the Ancient Conſtitution of this Government; I have had all poſſible regard to it ſince my coming, and I am reſolved through the courſe of my my Reign to endeavour to preſerve it intire in all the parts of it, I have a full confidence in the Affections of my people, and I am well aſſured they have the ſame in me, and I will never give them Juſt Cauſe to alter their Opinions. It ſhall be my ſtudy, to the utmoſt of my Power, to perform the part of a Juſt and Good King: and as I will ever be ſtrictly and nicely careful of obſerving my Promiſes to my Subjects, ſo I will not doubt of their Tender Regards to me.

Let all his Majeſties Actions be tryed with the *ſtrickteſt* Scrutiny, and if they be taken as they ought, in *coherence* with his Great Deſign of

preſerving the Honour and ſafety of the Nation: his whole Life will appear *Juſt* and *Equitable*; but if men will lay their falſe invented *Fears*, at the Doors of his Royal Palace, that were begot and nouriſh'd in their own *Houſes*, and catch here and there a *ſnap*, without examining the *Reaſon*, *Uſe* and *End* of every Action, which alſo by the way may not be fit for them to know neither: for every head is not fit to Pry into the Cloſet of Princes. *Reaſons* and *Maxims* of State, are above their reach, and looking upward will but turn their *Brains*, and make their Heads *Giddy*, which are too much afflicted with the *Megrim* already. I ſay, if they proceed ſo clandeſtinly, they may run into an *Eternal* circulation of Jealouſies, Slander the Beſt Government in the world, and make *Quidlibet ex Quolibet*, find Treaſon in the Laws, and pick Blaphemy out of the Holy Bible.

Let the King's Enemies if they can, give us one *ſingle* inſtance, wherein he has not been Juſt to the *Conſtitution*? What Law has he broken? what Rights of the People has he *Invaded*? what new Pretences of Prerogative has he *Invented*? or wherein has his Majeſty *ſtretch'd* thoſe that are the known, and allow'd *Rights* of his Crown, to the *prejudice* of his Subjects? or what has he omitted that might conduce to their Happineſs? Did the King ever ſtop his Ears to any *Reaſonable* Petition? did he ever *deny* Juſtice to the meaneſt Subject? or *refuſe* ſhewing mercy where it was needful? No, In his Majeſty they have nothing to revil but his *Vertues*, and were it fit to mingle his *Glory* with the *Jealouſies* of the *Mixture*, they could never be ſo *perfectly* ſumm'd up, as in their Oppoſites.

How unreaſonably do men argue, that would make *Jealouſies Conjectures*, *Hear ſays*, *Fancies*, and *Reports*, a ground to raiſe *ſuſpitions* upon, againſt a King, whoſe Life and Actions confound all ſuch pretences: and yet ſuch *Brutes* are found among us, that notwithſtanding all his Majeſties Bountiful *conceſſions*, raiſe evil ſurmiſes, and make Seditious Comments and Ungreatful Returns to his Goodneſs, forget their Obligations, by growing *weary* of their Duty, and would perſwade the world that the King is not in the Intereſt of his *People*, becauſe they are in none but their *Own*.

And now having anſwered the firſt Cauſe they aſſign as the Reaſon of their Fears, I proceed to the next: which is as *Unreaſonable* and *Ridiculous*, as the former is *falſe* and *ſcandalous*, and both confute themſelves.

Thoſe *Pſeudo Patriots* that by Improving and Practiſing upon Fears and poſſibilities, would cover the Affronts and Indignities they put upon his Majeſty, confeſſes there is no danger to be expected during

his Reign, and give these *ſubſtantial* Reaſons for it † *Becauſe he is our Moſes, and has delivered* England *from a Captivity, equal to that of the Children of Iſrael. A Prince whoſe Life is ſo neceſſary to the Preſervation of* Europe, *that both Proteſtant and Popiſh Princes, forgeting their ancient Maxims, and innate Animoſities, made it their Common Intereſt to chooſe him their Patron and Protector: a Prince in whom we know no Vices: but what have been eſteemed Vertues in others,* viz. His *undeſerved clemency to his Enemies, and his too much expoſing* that *Life, upon which depends not only our Safety, but the Liberties of all* Europe, *and the Proteſtant Religion through the World:* and yet to ſpoyle their kindneſs, uſher in an Inference, that tells the Reader they give no credit to their own Elogies, for after they ſaid, *If this moſt Excellent Prince was as Immortal as his Glorious Actions, we ought in Common Prudence, to abandon all thoughts of ſelf Preſervation, and wholly rely on his Care and Conduct.* They are pleas'd to add what was the mighty Argument of their Party in another Place; *that ſince no Vertue, nor Pitch of Glory, can exempt him from paying the common Debt to Nature, we ought not to Intruſt any Power with Him which we don't think proper to be continued to his Succeſſor!* A poor ſhift God Wott to ſupport Ingratitude, and might have been better ſolv'd by agreeing to be Civil to him during his Life, than by making his Mortality an Argument for the exercife of ill manners, promoting Fears and Jealouſies, and aſpiring after his Sovereignity; for by theſe Policies the *Intermixture* Work, that ſay in effect not this *King*, but *Another* King, or a Form of Government *that would have no King in Iſrael, that the* Seditious *might do what was Right in their own Eyes, act like men of Authority and not as the Scribes*; for then they will want no Collateral Security for their *Privileges*, when their Reaſons are in their *Own Hands*, and the *Supreme* Power placed in that ſort of ill natur'd People, whoſe underſtandings grow downward, and affront a Good King in *Being*, becauſe 'tis poſſible a *Bad one* may come hereafter, which is an abſurdity never equall'd, but by thoſe Members of the ſame Club, that affirm'd among other Debates and Reſolutions * *that the moſt likely way of reſtoring King* James, *is maintaining an Army to keep him out*: Or a Gentleman that ſaid, the late noiſe of an Invaſion from *France*, was a trick of the *French King*'s to keep up a Standing Army in *England*.

To ſlander his Majeſty in his Honour, and the good eſteem of his People, not for any thing he has done, or that they fear he will do, *but for what poſſibly another King may do hereafter*, is either a ſenceleſs or a very malicious way of arguing, and makes all their *Panegyricks*

† Argument againſt a Standing Army *p.* 9.

* Arg. cont. Stand. Army *p.* 28.

on the King, look as if they were form'd from the deepeſt *Malice*, and *Prejudice*, and were only the Arts of the *Mixture*, under Profeſſion of the greateſt *Veneration*, to diminiſh the Perſon they pretend to magnifie, and to uſe their own words, is *cuting a Mans Throat with a Feather:* for tho a preventional Prudence in ſtifling ill conſequences in their *Cauſes*, and obviating miſchiefs in the *Bud* is very commendable; yet to make a danger *Real* where it is but *Imaginary*, to act as if it were in *being*, that is as far diſtant as the *next* Generation, to ſuſpect a King in the *Throne*, for the fault of a King that may be yet *unborn*, and from a bear *Poſſibility* of Power being ill imploy'd, to Act as if it were ſo, is but ſtrugling with *Fantoms* and *Chimara*'s, and enflaming the People with Senceleſs and Seditious *May Be*'s. A King of *England* a Hundred Years hence, may be a *Tyrant*; muſt we therefore be *Rude* and *Ungrateful* to the King in being, whom we confeſs he neither *Has*, and believe he never *Will* do us injury? It may happen in the next Generation, a King by the exerciſe of a *Deſpotick Power*, may deprive the Subjects of their *Liberty*, muſt we therefore *Raviſh* the Rights of the Crown from our preſent *Monarch*, that by his Valour has regain'd, and by his Goodneſs preſerves them? We may be wrong'd by an *Enemy*, muſt we therefore ſuſpect our *Beſt Friends*? and becauſe the world muſt be deſtroied by *Fire*, muſt we run with Torches in our hands, and *burn* our Houſes now, in dread of the *General* Conflagration? Surely none are ſo mad to grant it! and therefore to ſtrike People with Dreadful expectations, of what may happen we know not when, and ſet up *Poſſibilities*, and *Contingencies* to unravel and perplex *preſent* Affairs, ſmells Rankly of a Deſig, and that our new *Seditious Interpoſitors* would enſlave us, firſt to their *Principles*, and then to their *Perſons*, as their Predeceſſors have once done already.

Our Miſeries are *Endleſs* if we ſtand in fear of *Poſſibilities*, for as their is nothing we *Fear* ſo certain of coming, as 'tis certain that many things we fear will *never* come, we ſhould hope the beſt, and not by *Treachery*, *Cowardice* and *Diſtruſt* of Providence, Contrive and Enlarge our own Unhappineſs; for this is to *Die* for fear of *Death*, and ingulph our ſelves into certain Miſery, upon invented or ill grounded apprehenſions.

This Deſign of *Amuſing* the People, with Evils that might happen from a *Standing Army*, being on Foot, how did the *Mixture of Intereſts*, by pretending to Read his Majeſties *Thoughts* in that affair, draw ſuch *unnatural* Conſequences, and Retort ſuch Diſingenious Reflections upon his ſuppoſitious future Conduct, as was Unſufferable in hearing, and Undutiful in Reporting; and yet how *Coolely*, *Se-*

dately, and Wiſely, did His Majeſty manage himſelf in that whole affair, and *Silenc'd* all that ſlaundred his Intentions, as if he would Govern by a Standing Army: for tho poſſibly his Majeſty might be of Opinion (*as well as thouſands of his Subjects of Celebrated Intelects and conſiderable Fortunes*) that as Publike matters were then circumſtantiated, a greater *Land Force* was neceſſary than what was talk'd of; yet ſo great was his deſire and indeavour to allay the *Heats*, that ſome men were raiſing upon that Subject, that he ſuffer'd the *Quiet* of his People to prevail upon his *Judgment*, and as ſoon as the Bill for Disbanding the Army was Ready for the Royal Aſſent, he immediately Paſs'd it, and to that great Example of *Self-Denial*, made the following Pathetick to the Parliaments Speech. *Feb.* 1. 98.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I came to Paſs the Bill for Diſbanding the Army as ſoon as I underſtood it was ready for Me.

Though in our preſent Circumſtances, there appears great hazzard in breaking ſuch a Number of the Troops; And though I might think my ſelf Unkindly us'd, that thoſe Guards, who came over with me to your Aſſiſtance, and have conſtantly attended me in all the Actions wherein I have been engaged, ſhould be removed from me; yet it is my fixt opinion, that nothing can be ſo fatal to us, as that any Diſtruſt or Jealouſie ſhould ariſe between me and my People, which I muſt own would have been very unexpected after what I have Undertaken, Ventured, and Acted for the Reſtoring and Securing of their Liberties.

I have thus plainly told you the only Reaſon which has induced me to paſs this Bill; and now I think my ſelf oblig'd, in diſcharge of the Truſt repoſed in me, and for my own juſtification, that no ill conſequences may lie at my Door, to tell you as plainly My Judgment, that the Nation is left too much expoſed.

It is therefore incumbent upon you, to take this matter into your ſerious Conſideration, and effectually to provide ſuch a Strength as is neceſſary for the ſafety of the Kingdom, and the Preſervation of the Peace which God hath given us.

The Houſe of Commons in an Addreſs were pleas'd to tell the King, that the paſſing the Act for Disbanding the Army, *gave great ſatisfaction to his Majeſties Subjects, and that his compliance with the Puntual Execution thereof, would prevent all occaſion of Diſtruſt or Jealouſie betwen his Majeſty and his People*: And one would have thought it could not have miſs'd that great End. Yet there were a Remnant at ſeveral Clubs, that reaching after Sovereign Power, like the Bay of *Biſcay*, are always Tumultuous, let the Wind blow where it will that were more enrag'd and diſtur-

bed at his passing the Bill, than they were before on Pretences He would not: and at several Caballs (to use their own words) *said the King had Cross bit them, foyl'd them at their own Weapons, had broken their Measures, and Removed a Pretence, which they hoped would have been a lasting Subject of Complaint, and keeping up the pretended Fears of Arbitrary Government*: Insomuch that a Gentleman of no small Figure in Publick Affairs, upon reading his Majesties Speech above recited, in great Passion Swore G. D. me, 'tis Impossible to circumvent this Gentleman, (meaning the King) He *Countermines* all Intrigues, and *will Govern us in Despight of our Teethes*. At other Clubs some Members of the Faction raved against the Bill, because it had left *Seven Thousand Cut-Throats*, yet in *England*, whereas there ought not one *Red* or *Blew* Coat to have remained on this side of the Water. In hopes I suppose they being disgusted, under Resentments of the slight, they would immediately transport themselves, comply with the Court at *St. Germans*, and assist them in the Restoration of *Popery and Slavery*: Or otherwise by leaving the Nation *Defenceless*, we might have no benefit by a *Peace*, that cost the Kingdom so great an expence of Blood and Treasure: For what ever these men Pretend of the Zeal of *Englishmen*, in the *Defence* of their Country, and the no need of *Swords* in times of Peace; they do but *Arraign* their own Politicks: *for that Peace which puts people out of a condition of Defence in case of a War, must expect a War*; and such a State as leaves a People at the *Mercy* of an Enemy, is *worse* than a War it self, unless we could perswade our Neighbours, to be as Supine and Negligent as they would have us be; for otherwise our *Sloth* and fancied *Security* is but an *Invitation* for them to *Over-run us*, or Cut our *Throates* while our *Hands* are ty'd behind us: The Pretence of Relying solely upon our Fleet, Renders our safety as uncertain as the *Wind* and *Weather*, for if in time of War, when we had the assistance of a *Neighbouring* Fleet in Conjunction with our own, besides a Powerful *Confederacy* by Land, yet found we had enough to do, before we could bring our Enemies to any tolerable terms of Peace, it would be the greatest *Folly* in the world, to depend upon a Single Uncertain help, when we might be subdued before we could put our selves into a Posture of Resistance at home, or expect it from abroad. As weak is the pretence of relying upon our *Militia*, which *for Ever* will be nothing but a *Rav* and *Undisciplin'd* Multitude, and to Trust to it, is to combat *Wolves* with *Sheep*, to let go a *Real* Security, and Rely upon an *Imaginary* one. The Project of making the *Militia* serviceable on all occasions, is still in the Cloudes; and the *Insuperable* difficulties they meet with in producing the *Miracle*,

and the *Delaies* they give us in forming the Stratagim, tempt us to think, they are at last fallen into the other Notion, *viz. That Regular and Disciplin'd Troops are far Superior to the Best and Strongest Militia in the world: that Experience and Discipline makes an Army serviceable, and where the Security of a Nation requires a Marshal Strength, 'tis Ridiculously Impolitick, to Disband the Learned only to teach the Ignorant, and put the Government to the Toyle, and Expence, of making Officers and Soldiers, when we have them made to our hands.*

There is nothing but *Contradiction* and an inflexible humour governs this sort of People; for after they had lost their vain Fears of Arbitrary Government, in the *Character* they themselves give the *King*, they Shelter under the Danger that might rise from the *Army* it self; and yet after all the *Rude* and *Ungentile* Language they give both Officers, and Soldiers, yet at last the Power of *Truth* has forc'd them into this Ingenious confession † *that what they have said against Standing Armies, they would be understood of such as are Instruments of Tyranny, and their Countries Ruin, and not of our* Present Army, *which was raised by consent of Parliament, in the Just and Necessary War; and next under God and our great and glorious Deliverer, have, by their Bravery and Conduct, preserved our Liberties and the Protestant Religion through Europe.*

† Argument against a Standing Army *p.* 30. & 31.

There are a sort of *Talkers* that ought to have good Memories, and these Seditious Bablers, tho they have an *Excellent* faculty in the Former, they are extremely *Defective* in the Latter, for 'twas this *very Army*, that next to God and our great Deliverer, have by their Bravery, and Conduct, preserved our Liberties, and the Protestant Religion through *Europe*, that in other Places * they call common *Cut Throates and Murderers* by Profession, and under those *Hard Names*, move that there may not be † *One Soldier* left in *England*. 'Tis a great Shame and Pity that the Army han't the Priviledge of bringing Actions of Slander against the *Mixture*, for as every injur'd Person and Fraternity ought to have Reparations Proportionable to their *Sufferings* by Slanderous Tongues; so I am very Confident the *Free-Holders* of *England* would give them *Swinging* Damages, where the Agressors confess the Action. Well,

* Argument against a Standing Army. *p.* 29.

† Answer to the Ballancing Letter.

Since then by their own Confession, There is no cause of Fear from the *King*, nor *Danger* from the Army, 'tis worth our further enquiry what has rais'd all this *Dust* to choak us with *Jealousies* and *Suspitions*, and after all the *Reputation* we have gain'd in *War* would sink us into a

dangerous *Remiſneſs* in time of Peace and upon *Remote* and *Invented* fears of danger that will probably never happen, *Expoſe* our ſelves to thoſe which we muſt certainly look for, as ſoon as we have put our ſelves out of a Capacity of *Reſiſting* by Disbanding the whole Army, and the Reaſon I meet with in an *Ingenious Author*, *viz.* Becauſe a ſort of men ſet up for wonderful Patriots, grow Jealous of the Prerogative, and commence *Zealots* for Publick Liberty, who in the late Reigns, tho' we had not only the *Juſteſt* Cauſes of Jealouſie, but all the *Certainties* of Evidence, that Arbitrary Power was *Erecting* ; yet ſome of them were ſilent, and others that went into them with as hearty a Zeal for Arbitrarineſs, as they ſeem now to put on for Liberty, and in the late War laboured hard to lay us *open* to Invaſion and Conqueſt, what they could not compaſs during the War, are endeavouring to accompliſh now, by all the Arts Imaginable, and leave no ſtone unturned that may make a ſtep to our *Confuſion*, and their own *Advancement*; but this affair being determined by the *King* and *Parliament*, I ſhall add no more but my hearty Wiſhes, that there may never be an unhappy occaſion, by the malice of our Foreign Enemies, or the Treachery of the Mixture, to convince us by a Dear bought experience *Who were in the Right*. However,

Tho' this Matter is at length accommodated, as you have heard already, to ſhew their *Envy*, *Covetouſneſs* and *Ambition* is never to be ſatisfy'd, till themſelves be in Office, or all Overturned : they re-aſſume their never-failing Topicks, *Arbitrary Officers* and *Miſmanagements*, and through the ſides of his Miniſters, wound his Majeſty in his Honour, and under the general name, and cry againſt the Court, reflect upon his Sacred Perſon, for though they don't explain it in words at length ; but hide themſelves under Dubious and Abiguous Terms, their meaning is as Intelligible as that its day when the Sun's upon the Meridian. None but the King has Power of *modelling* the Court, or exchanging the Miniſtery, and they might as well ſay the King was the head Conſpirator to Introduce the pretended Slavery, as to ſay he appoints the *Inſtruments* to accompliſh it : and how they will reconcile this, either with the *Character* they are pleaſed to give them, or the profound Reſpect and Duty they pretend to owe him, is paſt my Underſtanding.

I am no *Advocate* for ill Miniſters, and they that know *Who* are ſuch, would do well to tell them ſo, or apply themſelves where the Diſcovery will be *Welcome*, and Miſmanagements redreſs'd, and if they don't take the Legal Method of convicting ſuch Offenders, their pretences will by all that underſtand themſelves be cenſured, like *Sir H. D. C.*

Petition, to be *Frivolous*, *Vexatious*, and *Scandalous*. I know they will answer 'tis none of their *business*: and I must reply, they do ill to *Concern* themselves with that which is not; for 'tis less every Man's Duty to *Rail*, than seek to *Remedy* what they know is *Amiss*: and if they know it not, they are much more to blame, to make Worthy Mens Reputations, the Subjects of idle and envious *Banter*, unless they covet the name of *Buisie-bodies*, or what is worse, *Common Slanderers*.

There is a *Blind* side, and *Weak* part in the Populace, that easily yields to any Assault, which all that low Sedition endeavour to secure to themselves, and that is, they naturally love to hear Great Men spoken ill of, and are never better pleas'd than when their Ears are drumm'd with *Rancorous* Discourses and Malicious Insinuations against their Superiors: which the *Mixture* knowing, they frequent publick places, and without considering their own *Quality*, and the Port they ought to keep, Associate with all Companies, to Exaggerate the *Faults* and *Misfortunes* of the Government, which they always do to the height, and make every *Mole hill* a *Mountain*, every *Gnat* a *Camel*, every slip or stumble a Dangerous Symptom of approaching *Ruin*, and Hint them with such a superfetation of Fears and Jealousies, as if the whole frame of Nature were dissolving, and the world on the Brink of Ruin by the mismanagement of those they are pleased to call *Ignorant* and ill designing Ministers, and then sigh out Damnation against them, with such hidious Accents, as engages their Auditors to believe and publish them, and by these little Artifices of the *Mixture*, false Report's are spread, and the King and Court *Traduced* when there is no Cause or Reason to give them Credit. Hence *Ill* Constructions are put upon *Usefull* and *Innocent* Actions. Ill *Turns* are given to *Well intended* designs, and every *Trip* in the Administration, is magnified by *unjust* aggravations, without making an Allowance for the *Difficulties*, under which the *Ministery* for many years have laboured: in maintaing a War by *Sea* and *Land*, when our Money was debased, our Credit *Sunk*, and almost at an Impossibility to retrieve it: besides the Care and Thought, in uniting men of *different* Parties, different *Principles*, and *Different Interests*, to contribute towards the common Preservation: which no Man knows the trouble of, but those that under-went the *Burden* of it, which if Impartially weighed, and considered with due regard to the *Circumstances* of the *time* and *necessities* of Affairs, it would not only cool the heat of their Enemies, but merit the *Applauses* and *Thanks* of those very Men, who are so forward to condemn them without considering how much the Govern is *Weakned*, and the Honou and Reputation of it *Broken*, by these ignorant and ungrateful *Undermin*ers.

No

No Government on Earth is so compleatly perfect, but something will be amiss in the Administration, and some unhappy occasions of complaints will arise; but the ways by which the Seditious *Intermixture* manage themselves, plainly discover their Designs are not to *Rectify* Disorders, but to *countenance* their own Clamours against the King and Court, because they are not infallible: whereas a modest and sincere Intention for the Publick Good, would first consider how far promoting such suggestions would carry them, since if they look back but a few Pages into our History, they will find that the same complaints have already kindled a *War*, and many a Doleful Tragedy amongst us. 'Tis impossible to know what they mean, by what they say, for they take the measure of good and evil, not from the Nature and Tendency of Actions, but from the Characters of Persons, and they are *Elected* or *Reprobated*, as the Persons are esteemed for, or against the Party, to which their Natural propensities, or sordid *Interests* incline them, and being tinged with *Malice* and *Malcontentedness*, they think nothing more their duty than to feed and *cherish* unnatural Heats and Divisions, till they can blow up the sparks of their *Frensie* into publick *Combustions*. 'Tis their natural humour to dislike, and as fast as they are able subvert every established Government, and 'tis no wonder, for what can Restrain Mad men from railing at their Keepers, and Governours, and the Laws, which Fetters them up from those *Outrages*, that they are so eager to act upon their Country.

There is scarce a Crime to be mentioned in reference to the Public, but they confidently charge it upon the *Ministry*; but keep the Proof of them in the *Clouds*, as if the World were obliged to believe malicious Reports, upon the Credit or a spightful hearsay, which have neither Being nor Beginning, Colour nor Pretence to justifie them. There is all the reason in the world that *Ill* Ministers should be *punished*, and he would be one of the worst of Men, that would either palliate their *Fault*, or protect their *Persons* when they are *Convicted* of what they stand accused; but yet there is no Reason that any man should be scandalized, and suffer upon the *Naked* account of a *Running* Clamour, that has no other *Father*, but the malicious *Inventions* of those that are strugling for their *Places*. It is no wonder to hear the greatest Worth Defamed, the wisest Conduct Suspected, the Profoundest Wisdom slighted, and Men of the most *Examplary Vertue* evil spoken of. The envious eyes of some Men, will for ever be disturb'd for so great a Lustre. The *Israelites* envied *Moses*, the *Jews* scandaliz'd the Blessed *Jesus*, the *Romans* suffered *Belisarius* to beg about their Streets, that had been thrice their *Deliverer*, and no sooner were the *Athenian* Captains by

their Excellent Conduct, Valour, and Succeſs, rais'd in the Eſteem for their very Enemies, but they were preſently *Envy'd*, *Impoveriſhed*, and *Proſcribed* by their *own* Countrymen. The Renowned *Caſar*'s fall was owing as well to the Envy as Malice of *Republican Brutus*, and *Caſſius*. 'Tis a great piece of Folly to think the worſe of any Man for being *Envy'd* and *evil* ſpoken of; for 'tis certain the *Wiſeſt* and *Beſt* Man in the Nation, though others may, ſhall never eſcape *Cenſure*; therefore heavy Accuſations and Crimes of the higheſt Nature, ought to be well proved, before they are believed, or ſpread abroad to the Prejudice of great Men in their *Lives*, *Honours*, *and Eſtates*, for if it be enough to be *Accuſed* where ſhall we find a Man that is *Innocent*.

We have heard many unpardonable Crimes objected againſt the *Courut*, but how rarely do we hear of any proof made againſt them; and therefore ſince the *Seditious Interpoſitors*, after all their tedious Searches and Examinations, have not been able to deſcry the Dangers they pretend to fear; 'tis a ſufficient Principle of Preſumption, that their *Jealouſies* are *ill-grounded*, that they find fault meerly for the ſake of finding fault, and like Boys having blown a *Soap-Bubble* from a Walnut ſhell, reſolve to keep it up as long as they have breath to follow it. Nay, ſince they exhibit *foul* and *diſmal* Charges againſt the *Miniſtry*, without referring to any Act of the Miniſters to make it good, they prove nothing but that they are *Oppreſſed* with Envy, and ill-nature; for they are not ſo *Unskillfull* at improving the Minuteſt *Peccadillo's*, that had they been furniſhed with any ſhadow of Truth, they would not have ſmoother'd them, and therefore ſince they have produced none, the Reader may juſtly conclude they have none to produce. And all undeſigning men, not withſtanding all the *ſcare Crows* that are ſet up to fright us, may with great ſatisfaction and quiet, depend upon his Majeſty's Promiſe made to the Houſe of Commons * in anſwer to their Addreſs, *viz.* *That He will take the beſt care he can, that all ſorts of miſmanagements, and Irregularities ſhall be Prevented or Redreſs'd.* So that upon the whole matter our Enemies crying out againſt the Government in *general* Terms, without being able to produce any thing worth the hearing, to juſtifie their Noiſe and Clamours; they prove nothing but their want of Breeding and better *Arguments*, and their Calumnies when driven home will recoyl upon their own Heads; for they that charge others with Crimes they cannot prove, Indict and Convict themſelves of *Falſity*. and as this Offence may be the Parent of many Diſturbances, ſo among our other *Real* Grievances, it calls for a timely *Redreſs*, for its infinitely below Autho-

* Martis 4. die Aprilis. 1699.

rity, to indulge, or neglect a humour that proceeds from nothing but Invincible Pride and Peeviſhneſs. However.

Certainly Cauſes there are, for all theſe complaints are not made for nothing. There can be no *Smoak* but there muſt be ſome *Fire*; and therefore to be juſt to my Reader, and ſatisfy my *Country*, I muſt not ſmoother them; but in Conſcience and Honeſty am obliged to bring ſome of them upon the *Stage*, and ſhew the Reaſons why there are ſo many complaints againſt the Court, and the firſt I encounter is,

That many of the Seditious Mixture are under great Diſappointments. *They want Places* of *Profit* that they may Repair *their Tatter'd Fortunes* at the Expence of the Public, and Places of *Truſt*, that they may have it in their Power to turn the Scales, if ever the Beam ſhould begin to Totter. And ſhew their *Exquiſite* Parts in Doing *Nothing*, *and Undoing* All Things. And the Government being ſupply'd at preſent with Able and Experienc'd Statesmen, and that 'tis *too long* to go *Barefoot*, till they can be Recruited with *Dead mens Shooes*, they would *pull them off*, and force a way to their Preferment, through the Reputations of the preſent *Miniſters*, and for that End *only*, endeavour to make the preſent Miniſters uneaſie to themſelves, and hateful to others, that they may turn them out, and thruſt themſelves into their Places; and this Chicanery they manage with ſo much Art and Induſtry, at their ſeveral Clubs and Eating-Houſes, as if all were going to ruin, unleſs they be ſpeedily *Empl'y'd*, and ſuch Methods obſerved to Regulate Diſorders, as they only can propoſe. though when their Notions come to be Examin'd, 'tis a Thouſand to one, but they are utterly Impracticable, Dangerous in the Uſe, and Deſtructive in the End; But the Vulgar not perceiving what's in the cover'd Diſh, they run into the ſame *Cry* againſt the *Court*, and eagerly ſpend their mouths in the Chaſe, which their Leaders have ſtarted, without knowing what the Game is, how it muſt be dreſſed, or who muſt feed upon the Carcaſs when they have help'd to catch it.

Noiſe and Nonſence is enough to ſet all the Idle *Tools* of the *Seditious Mixture* a *Madding*, and therefore having ſwallowed the Infectious Vehicle, it ſoon has its Operation, and now they all Applaud the Contrivances and Stratagems of theſe State *Empericks*, as the only Phyſitians that can cure all the Diſtempers in the Publick Adminiſtration: the only Patriots that can heal our Breaches, and reſtore to every *Factious* and *Impoveriſhed* Zealot, what he has a mind to. And in order to it *Railing* at the Miniſtry, is called *Liberty and Property*, *and Freedom of Speech*, and Deſpiſing Authority, is call'd not fearing the face of Men in their *Coun-*

try's Cauſe: when their Country is no more concerned in their Invectives and Quarrels againſt the Court, than they would be for their Country, if 'twere in their Power to ſerve it. Let theſe Underminers of the Miniſtry make what pretences they pleaſe, ſelf-intereſt is at the bottom of all their *Rarec-Shews* for Reforming what's Amiſs, and the Truth of the matter is, theſe Gentlemen having their Wants to Lead, and the Devil to Drive, they can find no ſuch *Expedient* to ſupply the former, and pleaſe the latter, as by changing the Miniſtry, and thruſting in themſelves to accompliſh what they aim at; and therefore proſecute the deſign accordingly with uncommon Vigour. See them ſet round a Table with all their Politicks about them, affecting as Zealous a look as if every Man were a *Machivel*, and as expert in Redreſſing Grievances, and Preventing Abuſes, as *Solon*, or *Lycurgus*, and now whatever opens their mouths againſt the Government, nothing but the hopes of a Place, can ſhut them, and that does it effectually. As a late Poet Sings.

Attempts to puriſie the Court,
Is damning men of Places:
Till decently they ſend them home,
And get themſelves put in their Rome,
And then they'll change their Faces.

'Tis not becauſe ſome In are Bad,
That form's Fears, and Pretences;
But wants of Equipage and Poſt,
And ſupplies at the Publick Coſt,
To keep Coach and Six, and Wenches.

The moſt ſerious Diſcourſes amongſt them, and of Weighteſt Matters, at laſt Centre in their wants of Preferment, and begin they where they will, a *Place* is the end of it. And though they may ſmother their *Deſires* and *Ambitious* aims a while, and appear only publick Spirited *Patriots*; yet their Viſor at length drops off, and their deſigns are diſcover'd, *They want an Office*, a lively inſtance whereof I heard but the other day in a Coffee-houſe, where a Diminutive Animal of a late, and from a mean Riſe, tho' now arriv'd to a great Eſtate, being heartily railing againſt the *Adminiſtration* and ſighing out his Fears for his dear Country and poor *England*. A *Gentleman* ſmartly Reprimands the Fop, tells him his Family was once regarded as men in the true *Intereſt* of the Nation. And tho' his Father's Chair *ſliding* from under him, the fall had ſwell'd his Spleen, turn'd his Brain, and affected his Uncle's by Simpathy: He was ſorry to ſee the *Son* alſo diſcover more weakneſs and *Ill* nature in the Family, in *Curſing* and Reviling the Publick Management and promoting diſcontents in

the Nation. To whom the Upſtart replyed, *I will, and ought to do it, for the Court has us'd me Barbarouſly*, and the *Place* I was a Candidate for they have given to another. In ſhort he *Over valued* himſelf, by aſpiring to the degree of a *States man*, and was *angry* that a *fitter* man had the Preference; and now his diſappointment muſt be call'd a *National* Greivance and Miſ-management. And if you ſearch to the bottom of all our *Clamours* ſtill the want of a *Place* is the cauſe of them.

Some of the *Murmurers* it's true, are modeſter or rather ſubtilter than others; yet all iſſue at laſt in the ſame thing, and tho' the Poyſon does not break out at the *mouth*, yet they have their Methods too, and *Slander* the Adminiſtration with their *Ears* and their *Looks*, and whilſt others Clacks are running accent and confirm their Calumnies, by Tipping the Wink, Shrugging the *Shoulders*, and ſhaking the *Head* ſo *diſmally* as ſuggeſts more Crimes againſt the *Court* than the World ever knew, or Arithmetick can number. And if the Stream runs againſt a *Miniſter* they think their Enemy, a familiar *Nod*, or gratious *Smile* from his Lordſhip in *Mummery* confirms all the Slanders which are *broach'd* at this Cabal, and ſhall paſs them as Confidently, as if they were Mathematical Demonſtrations, when peradventure there is not one true Syllable in all the Clatter.

Others of this Seditious *Mixture*, make their *Wants* and *Neceſſities* the cauſe of promoting Diſcontents and Jealouſies, and *Raffle* for *Preferment* and *Places*, for the ſame Reaſons that wiſe men think ſhould utterly debar them; for Hungry men ought not to be invited to ſcanty Commons, their *Debauched Extravagant* and vain expences, having conſumed their own *Eſtates*, there's no reaſon to *Truſt* them with the Publick *Purſe*, or Offices that may give them an opportunity of *Oppreſſing* the Subject to ſupply their *Neceſſities*, and lengthen their own *Feathers* by defrauding other men of their Right of Common. I am not unſenſible that it is thought a great piece of *Policy* in a Prince, to make frequent changes in his *Court*, and when ſome have fill'd their Pockets, to give them leiſure to ſpend it; and oblige others of his Subjects with the like *Advantages*. I will not diſpute whither this may prove advantagious to the *Crown*; but am of Opinion 'tis detremental to the *Subject*, for the ſame Reaſon that † *Tiberius* gave to his Friend upon asking him that queſtion: I ſeldom, ſays he change my Governours of Provinces becauſe every new hungry Comer, racks the People by new *Exactions*, till they have fill'd their Coffers, and then are at quiet. And to this purpoſe told them, that a poor *Lazar* having his ſores covered with *Flies*,

† Epitomy of *Joſephus*. p. 488.

Flies, which he endeavour'd not to drive away from feeding on his *Fleſh*, the Spectators believing it proceeded from his inability to do it, they went near to do that Office for him; but he pray'd them to let the *Flies* alone, for having now glutted themſelves with my *Blood* ſaith he, they don't ſuck ſo *Greedily*, but that I enjoy a little eaſe; but if you drive them away, *freſh* flies will light upon my *Sores* and ſuck me to *Death*. Which applyed to *Beggarly* Pretenders for *Employments*, puts a *Bar* to their Importunate *Solicitations* eſpecially when they take ſuch *Indirect* courſes to obtain what they ſeek for. Mens Neceſſities may be great, but good mens *Loyalty* will ſurmount their *Wants* and not put them upon *robbing* the King of his Poeples Duty and Affections, to fill their own *Bellies*; but rather to ſuffer any thing for his Majeſty than cauſe him in the leaſt to ſuffer by or for them. They have a great deal to anſwer for, who by the *State-Craft* of preſſing for Redreſs of Greivances, would amend their own Circumſtances, by raiſing *Hurricano*'s in the State, and ſtirring up ſuch *Commotions* as ſometimes ſhatter the Conſtitution, and as our own *Memoirs* can too ſadly inform us, often intirely Deface and Overturn it. When theſe dangerous Incendiaries firſt ſet out to Awe the *Government*, what pains do they take to ſhew themſelves diſaffected, and hope to get *Places* by Arguments of their Diſloyalty, and run againſt the *Court* in hopes they will ask their *Price*, and take them off, by beſtowing *Preferments* upon them. For thoſe Methods being ſucceſsful in former *Reigns*, they revive them in this,

King Charles *the Second knew their Game,*
And Places gave and Penſions;
And had King William's Money *flown,*
His Majeſty would ſoon have known
Their Conſciences *Dimenſions,*
But he has Wiſely *given them up,*
To work their own Deſires;
And laying Arguments *aſide,*
As things which have in vain *been try'd,*
To Faſtings, Want, *and* Prayers.

'Tis a Lewd and Unwarrantable ſtep in *Politicks*, for Seditious *Intermedlers* to expect to be Gratified by *Profitable Employments*, for being intolerably *Vexatious* to the Government; and by all the ſharking Ways and Means imaginable, to place themſelves at the *Helm*; for this *Cunning* is not always Crown'd with *Succeſs*; but oftentimes the *wild* purſuers draw down *Ruinous* Conſequences on their own Heads, by attempting to *Riſe* by ſuch *Natorious* Acts as call their *Fidelities* into Queſtion, for if men can be Loyal no longer than they and *bribed* to their Duties by Preferments, the King leans on *Broken Reeds*

Reedes, and cannot be *Secure* till he has as many Good *Places* in his Gift, as he has *Bad* and *Hungary* Subjects in his Kingdom, and if men would but consider that they have to do with a *Prince*, that is not to be *Hector'd* out of his Favours; they would give over throwing *Obsticles* in the way of their own *Rising*, seeing their is no great *Feats* to be done in this *Reign* by such a Fantastical Conduct: whereas the Exercise of *Humility*, *Loyalty* and *Modesty* would melt his *Heroick* Soul, into such Gracious *Considerations*, as would put him upon considering how he might be still *more* Beneficial to his People.

The Reigning *Sins*, *Pride*, *Ambition*, *and Atheism*, are other Greivancies that call aloud for *Redress*, and the neglect of *Suppressing* them; are to be reckon'd among our Real Mis-managements, and as the Cause of the Molestations they afflict the State. Envy and Obloquy, spares no body, the most unblemish'd Vertue is not sheilded from their *Darts*. 'Tis Defined by *Cicero*, to be *Grief* conceived in the Mind, at the *Good* which another man *enjoies*; and that good Especially, by which the Envious Man receives no *injury*; but they are *Sick* because other Men are *Well*, and the better it is with *Another* the worse it is with *him*. When Men have consumed their own *Estates* by Idle, and Extavagant *Expences*, they envy those that are grown *Rich* by their *Industry*; and this makes them *Curious* in Enquiring, and *Prying* into other Mens affairs that they may find something to *Lessen* them. A Temper so far from being *Christian*, that there's nothing of *Humility* but much of the *Devil* in it. Hence it is that the Ratling of a Courtiers *Coach* frights them out of their *Sences*, the sight of a fine *Coate*, makes 'em ready to tear their own *Clothes* tho Gayer, and puts them into such a Heate, that nothing but the Promise of a good *Place* can cool their Envy, or Divert them from Declaiming against the *Court*, telling Stories of *Mis-management*, Detracting from their *Merits*, and making large *Additions* to their faillings; and if the Court oblige them with some fine thing to play withal, their pretended *Consciencious* Clamours will submit to their *Interests*, and then the Court is the Honestest place in *Christendom*.

Pride and *Vanity*, are other Ingredients that contribute toward the composition of a *Male Content*; for they swell the *Factions* with such good opinions of *Themselves*, and their *Capacities* for Publick *Employments*, that there is a necessity for others to be Turn'd *Out*, that they may have an *Opportunity*, to shew their *Rare* Qualifications: and then the most compendious ways to obtain their wishes, are to calumniate the *Court*, and cut down the *Oakes* that the *Shrubs* and Under-wood may flourish; when all is but a grand mistake, for neither have the *Possessors* deserved a Writ of Ease, nor is the

Intruder qualified either with *Brain* or *Body* for it; but his Pride and Vanity ſcrew'd up his ow *Price*, and repreſented him of greater *Value* than he was. But ſome lucky hand being ſo kind, to Plum the depth of his *Underſtanding*, procur'd his *Diſmiſſion*, and now in Revenge, *King*, *Church*, *Court*, *City*, *Country*, muſt go to *Wrack*, and ſuffer all the Reproaches that the *Wit* and *Malice* of the Party can Invent.

Haughty and *Ambitious* Antimonarchiſts, are the other Cauſes of all the Fears and Suſpicions that are rais'd in *England*; for ſuch *Elevating* their minds above their *Ranks*, and the end of their *Inſtitution*, and wearing *Venerable* Titles; to humor Ambitious *Freakes* ſome *Popular* Maggot, or Invented *Danger* to withdraw Subjects from their Allegiance is ſtarted and therefore if we would not be chous'd out of our Legal *Settlemen*; before we imbibe their *Deluſions*, we had need make ſharp *Enquiries*, whether the Specious pretences of their *Reformers*, don't deſign to juſtle out that Univerſal *Repoſe*, which we have enjoyed under his Majeſties Government, and therefore are all equally oblig'd to *Promote* it. Innovations, which ſelf Intreſted Men would Introduce into the *Adminiſtration* of the Kingdom, have ſometimes unhing'd our Regular *Conſtitution*; but we rarely hear that they have ever Corroborated the Old, or have enlarged the Power of the Kingdom or the advantages of the People. Hiſtory ſwells with Examples which *Confirm* this Truth. How Unanimouſly have our Laws ſentenc'd all *Commotions*, tho Gilded with the faireſt. Colours that Art could Invent 'Tis atteſted by the Experience of of all Ages, that the horrible Evils which Factious *Innovators*, by raiſing Fears and Jealouſies have brought in amongſt us, have been a greater burden to us than any other affliction that could have happen'd. This is and ever will be the neceſſary concequence of ſuch Indeavours; for if every Sorry Pretender of *Grievances*, ſhould take a Licence to Diſobey his Superiors, whenſoever he has a mind to deliver himſelf of a Complaint: then *Farewell* Society, for no form of Government can *Subſiſt* on theſe Extravagant terms, ſince every one *Hurri'd* by his *Paſſions*, would never want Plauſible Reaſons to gronnd his *Plea* of Reſiſting Authority upon, and by this means our Miſeries would be endleſs.

Our Laws enjoyn us to Obey the Kingas *Supreme Head* and Governour, and forbid us entiring into any *engagements*, that by the wideſt Conſtructions may ſeem to claſh with our *Duty*. Now ſuch as by an Implicit Surrender, devote themſelves to any Perſon or Embodied Society, which are Superior to them; if that Society have given any ſigns of *Diſloyalty*, or of Advancing themſelves, the People are in great Danger of being ſtript of their *fidelity* to their *Leige Lord*, when their *Leaders* who ought to annimate the

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Allegiance of the Lower Orders of Men, become themſelves the firſt *Deſertors*. 'Tis enough we give Men of *Quality* the Reſpect that is Due to them, without being ſo much their *Vaſſals* as to ſell that Liberty of ours, of which the King is the only Maſter of. Not that I blame a Deference paid to great Men, but I would not have their *Authoritative* Influence, Hand over Head betray us to comply with their *Criminal* Paſſions; 'tis worth the while therefore firſt to obſerve as I ſaid before, whether theſe Reformers of *Abuſes* themſelves are *Loyal* and *Steady* in the *Intereſt* of their Sovereign, and whither there is not a Snake hidden in the Graſs: and that under pretence of rectifying *Diſorders* and *Miſ-managements*, they have not a Crafty Deſign to Hook us into a *Combination* that Undermines the Throne of our *Prince*, for if we get any Light, that they Drive at ſo *Black* an Attempt, we muſt diſdainfully Retreat from ſuch *Perfidious* Deſigns, and Generouſly ſacrifice every Glittering Advantage which they have cajol'd us with, to our Duty. And whatſoever Intereſt ſtarts up, to cleave Inviolably to the King; for as his Side is the Juſteſt, ſo the Advantages of Sticking to it, will be the moſt Honourable and Satisfactory.

'Tis only the effect of a Giddy preſumption, that *Spirits* on tumultuous Subjects, to *Quarrel* with the Adminiſtration of the State, imagining that publick Affairs would Roll more Smoothly, if themſelves were in the *Miniſtry*, or things were managed by their fanciful *Schemes*, whereas 'tis their Duty to ſubmit to the Laws, to baniſh Murmuring, and ſtifle Oppoſition, when a Conformity to their Regulations are required. But if Abuſes does inſinuate into the Government, no doubt but we ought to wiſh they were Reformed, but let no Men undertake it, without a *Lawful* Commiſſion, and certain Evidence of the Facts: For all extrajudicial attempts, and *Siniſter* Ends, tend rather to the Shaking of the *Monarchy* than Amending its Defects. And after all that State menders pretend to in changing the Miniſtry, the King is the proper Judge of every Alteration; and tho He ſhould not Agree to ſuch Demands, as carry a fair Plauſibility of Right for their being Granted, ſtill ought to *Acquieſce* with Confidence, that his *Non-concurrence* is for the Real good of his Subjects; and tho the Reaſons are behind the *Curtain* to us, they are Evident and Demonſtrative to *Himſelf* and Council. How happy are we then, that have a King that Careſſes his Subjects as his *Children*, and with an Indifatigable Application Propagates the Welfare of all under his Charge? How How Dutiful and Diligent therefore ſhould all his Subjects be in their ſeveral Stations, who Bask under that Sun-ſhine, to ſmother the Guſts and Ill Deſigns of the Mix-

ture *Early*, before they become Gloomy Clouds, big with impending ruin to darkin the Luſtre of Royal Grace.

Here I had the thoughts of Eaſing my Reader from the Fatigue I have given him; but I find my ſelf under a neceſſity of trailing him a little further, before I can diſmiſs him with intire ſatisfaction. For having ſhewed him that there is a deſign carrying on at ſeveral *Cabals*, either utterly to deprive his Majeſty, or at leaſt to leſſen his Authority, I muſt ſhew him now, that ſince it could not be done at once as in the *Aſſaſſination Plot*, they are now doing it by *Degrees*, and as the *Wolves* would firſt rob the *Sheep* of the aſſiſtance of their faithfull Allies, that they might become an eaſie prey to their *Devourers*; ſo that that the *Mixture* might *Impoſe* upon the King at pleaſure, 'twas reſolved at another *Club*, and Publiſhed by one of their *Secritaries* in a Pamphlet † call'd, *An Anſwer to the Ballancing Letter*, That

† Page 7.

To preſerve the Honour of the Government: none, or few, who have gainful Offices, ſhould be Members of the Houſe of Commons,

Sure the Gentlemen of this *Club* are Men of great *Intereſt* and *Correſpondence*, and what they tranſack in their Club Room, ſtrangely *Influences* other Places; for there is ſcarce a *Page* in the whole *Libel* that has not been the Subject of *Debates* and *Reſolutions* in more Eminent *Aſſociations*, and then no wonder to ſee things go at this Rate, and themſelves ſo mightily concerned for the *Honour of the Nation*, which was never further in their thoughts, than to make what *earnings* they could, from their pretences of having ſerved the Government: for ſome are well known amongſt them, that now rail at all above and below them, that are not of their Faction, that have had their *Hands* deeper in the King's *Pockets*, and have received larger ſhares of his Bounty, than any men of their Quality in *England*; and yet are ſo *Ungrateful*, that they never afford his Majeſty one good word: but upon all Occaſions detract from his *Virtues*, Eclipſe his *Glory*, and by all the Power they have *leſſen* his Authority; and in this their *Favourite* Project aim at nothing leſs than if it were *poſſible* to leave him *Friendleſs* alſo, for under that name they would exclude his Officers; which are but the *late Kings* Politicks Revers'd, and tend no other purpoſe but to expreſs their *Ingratitude*.

Every *Proteſtant* Getleman in *England*, under ſuch requiſite Qualifications as the Law has eſtabliſhed, have a right to be Elected *Members* of *Parliament*, and nothing can look with a more *Arbitrary* Countenance upon the *Gentry* of *England*, than a deſign of this Narure; for it takes away their *Birth-rights*, and ſinks their Honour in the Eſteem of the Nation, as it diſtinguiſhes them

as men *Unfit* to serve their Country, because they have the Honour of serving their King. Is this for *the Honour of the Government*, to perswade the World, that they that serve the King are not to be *trusted* in the management of *Publick* Affairs. What a manifest Contradiction is this to common Sence, that those which other whiles they call *the King's Friends*, must have a mark set upon them as his greatest *Enemies*: for if they truly love and faithfully serve the King, *as I am inclined to think they do, because the Mixture hate them*, they will offer no nothing, but what they apprehend will be of service both to *King* and *Country*, whose *Interests* can never be divided, but *Live* and *Die* together. To think to serve the King by *Injuring* the Country, is to Discrown their Master and to think to *oblige* the Nation, by *Lessening* the Kings Authority, and impairing his Revenue, is to Behead the people, their Interests as I said before are so Interwoven together that one cannot *suffer*, but the other sensibly *feels* it; and therefore the *Mixture* ought to give the Officers some other name, or let them keep their Places. Besides, is it for *the Honour of the Government* to Disfranchize the Electors, and ridicule them as ignorant Animals, who don't know who are fit to be their *Representatives* in Parliament. Is not this Arraigning the *Commons* to think an *Office* can *corrupt* them, and *byass* them from their Duty to their *Country*? What Disingenious reflections are these upon *Gentlemen*, and what *Heart Burnings* will it beget among us? How do they know which way these *Officers* will Vote, since some Officers Vote as constantly against what they call the *Court Party*, as if they held their Places by no other Tenure; Ought not every Member to *Vote* as his Judgment directs him, without being *Censured* at every Drunken Club for so doing. And why should the *Yea's* be thought less *Judicious* and *Conscientious* than the *No's*, or the *No's* than the *Yea's*, God forbid; for these are but *Bones* of Dissention thrown among us to set all at squabbling: and that the *Seditious* may find their own account in fastning Crimes on Men of *Honour* and *Worth*, they neither know why, nor wherefore: whose *Juglings* may prove of Dangerous Consequence to the *State*, and to those who are *Over reach'd* by them.

The Design they manage, in endeavouring to *Exclude* all that have *Offices* under the King out of the House of Commons is plain enough; they are afraid *the Kings and Countries Affairs should thrive too well*, and therefore would have the House of Commons to be *like themselves, all of a Piece*, and wholly against the *King* and *Court*. I cannot but wonder how they dare make such *Reflections* upon the House of Commons, as to *Insinuate* there are any Parties and Factions among them, by pretending to distinguish who

are *For* and *Againſt* the Intereſt of the King. What a Liberty of Cenſuring all the reſt do they furniſh Converſation with? When they propoſe the *Turning* out ſome particular Member, under the *ſuppoſition* that they are in the Royal Intereſt, which is *Unkind* to the *Parliament*, and *Ungrateful* to the *King*: and I am only ſorry that I am not wholly at Liberty to purſue, and improve the Reſults of my own thoughts upon that Subject: Tho' they have partly ſpared me the labour in contriving their *Schemes* ſo *Ill*, that they are neither Adapted to perſwade the *Wiſe*, nor to deceive the *Simple*, their *Intrigues*, and the *Slanders* by which they manage them, being ſo *Open* and *Barefac'd*, that had an Enemy Deſigned to expoſe their *Wickedneſs*, he could not have Father'd upon them more *unlucky* Inſtances, than what is *covered* under this *Old Trick of Secluding Members*, which we hope the *Lord's* Wiſdom and Goodneſs will prevent, leſt the ſame *Club* when their deſigns are *Ripe*, ſhould think their *Lordſhips* alſo *dangerous and uſeleſs*, and propoſe it as a Grievance to be Redreſs'd. *For what has been done may be done again, and the ſame cauſe will produce the ſame effects* to the end of the Chapter.

Which is as evident as Demonſtration can make it, by the next ſtep the *Mixture* took at a *Cabal* held, as I take it, at *the Old Devil of St. Duuſtan's*, where to Expreſs their *Ingratitude* to the *Height*, and ſhew what ſort of *Cards* were *Trumps*, when their *Spies* and *Emiſſaries*, and the *Agents* and *Factors* which they keep in all corners of the Town, to Fetch and Carry, to Traffick for *News*, and ſupport the Trade of *Promoting Fears and Jealouſies*, had brought in their ſtraggling *Reports*, they came to theſe unkind *Reſolutions*, and order'd them to be *Engroſs'd*, and † *Printed* and *Publiſhed* by their former *Secretary*, viz.

† Pamphlet predict. P. 22. and 23.

That letting in Aliens, diminiſhes the ſtrength of the Nation, and therefore the Dutch *muſt be amoved out of the Kingdom, and a Fatal day ſet for their departure.*

Without doubt the Mixture will ſay theſe Proceedings are for the *Honour of the Government too*? To Invite Strangers to our Aſſiſtance, and when they have done our Work, and contributed to the Nations Deliverance from Tyranny, and Oppreſſion; then to Treat them with Unkindneſs and Ingratitude; which as our caſe ſtands in expectation of what may happen, is as Oppoſite to the Honour and Intereſt of *England*, as Light is from Darkneſs.

Tho' I've no Lilly *in my belly,*
This home-ſpun truth I'll boldly tell ye,
(And may I be no Prophet)
If thus we ſerve our trueſt Friends,
Some nameleſs Sparks may have their Ends:
And miſchief may come of it.

Nay those stanch Senators I doubt
Who with a Vote French *Armies rout*
and quarrel who shall win most,
Shou'd Monsieur *Land, wou'd surely fly,*
And turning tail, Heroic cry,
The Devil take the hind'most.

Certainly the Gentlemen of this *Cabal* are very loose in their Sentiments, that find those Aliens, now so great an Eye-sore, that not long since they Caressed with the highest Expressions of *Respect*, and made such acknowledgments of *Obligations* to them, that they were never able to *Recompence*. Pray Gentlemen what have they done to *Merit* your displeasure? wherein have they mis-behaved themselves towards you, that all of a sudden they must be Ship'd off, as a Dangerous People? How long have you been perswaded that they have *Diminished* the strength of *England*, were you of this *Opinion* when they Landed in *Torbay*, and with their *Swords* in their hands, asserted your *Liberties*? Could you have done the Nations work without them? If you could why did you so earnestly request their *Assistance*, and if you could not, why would you have them used so *unkindly*. For shame give over Affronting the *Honour* of *English* men, with such ungrateful *Characters* and making the Nation *Contemptible* in the Eyes of all the World, for the sake of a few *Male-contented Clubbers*, and the next time you employ your *Secretaries* Pens, let it be to better purpose, and enjoyn them for the Honour of your *Club Room* to Apologize for the *slurs* they have put upon the Nation already.

But the Decree of the *Cabal* you see is *peremptory*. Our *Dutch friends* must march off, and the Reason they give for it is a doughty one, *viz* †*For every Foreigner living in* England, say they, we *have an* Englishman *the less*. That's strange! since if we had not had their *Assistance*, our *Quota* during the War, must have been greater, and consequently more *Englishmen* must have fallen a Sacrifice to *Popery* and Slavery, then has done, and therefore we have more *Englishmen* left alive for having had their Assistance, than in all probability we could have had, if we had wanted them; but this *Core* against the *Dutch* lies deeper than every man's aware of; for these very men that propos'd packicking off the *Dutch*, not long since were as zealous for promoting a Bill of Naturalization for all the *French*: though the latter Nation are our known *Enemies*, and the *Dutch* our faithful *Allies*, and imbark'd in the same Cause against them. But it seems the *Mixture* knew what Monarch protected the Abdicated King, whose Restoration is a great point among them, tho kept behind the Curtain; and where the Court of *St. Germans* stood; and therefore were compounding with the two Courts, by shewing Kindness to that Nation, and send ng away the *Dutch*, who by Interest as Well as Alliance,

† Lib. & p. predict.

were obliged to assist us when occasion serve'd against them both. I could urge a great deal more upon this Head, but I know they are upon the *Free* already, for being touc'd in the Gall'd place, and being unwilling to *Sour* 'em more, or meddle with a Wasps-Nest, I won't attempt to put a Statue of Brass out of Countenance, or hope to Convince or *Silence* Men of their Complexions.

The Great Reason why the *Dutch* must Troop off, is still to come, and tho they were always accounted as his Majesties *Domestick Servants*, and have for many years attended his Royal Person in his Progresses, yet not a Hoof must be left behind: and to enforce this proposal they draw their unanswerable Argument from a Hen-Roost Metaphor, and say * *Strangers are the nest-Eggs of a Foreign Invasion.* See how these *Witty* Gentlemen tumble in their Pretty *Tropes*; *Rickety Heads, and Arbitrary Power, Obedient Subjects and Puppy-Dogs, Invasions and Nest-Eggs. Tipical, Topical, Tropical, my Pid is Green.* What pleasant sport might a Man make with the Grave Speeches that have been made upon these Heads, but I have no time to loose in Winnowing *chaff*, or catching *Butterflies*: and therefore shall proceed to shew how these Gentlemen *forget* themselves, and *Say* and *Unsay* to uphold the great *Hypothesis* of being perfect Enemies to his Majesty. When a Probability of trouble from *France*, was urg'd as a reason to keep up such a Number of Troops, as might secure the Nation fro such attempts. Than the *Mixture* scoffed such obviating Dangers as ridiculous Imaginations. Then we hear of nothing but the great *Courage, Zeal, Fidelity, and Unanimosity of the* English *Nation* in case of a *French* Invasion; but when the talk was hot about the *Dutch* staying or going, all those Glorious *Epithets* are shrunk into *Meaness of Spirit*, and they shew the Nation in such a *Cowardly* Posture, as if they stood all *Shivering* behend the Door, for fear of—— thousand *Dutchmen*: or that every one of these *Nest-Eggs* should hatch such a Brood of *Shake-Bags* as would Beat all the *fighting Cocks* in *England.* Thus are we represented as *Stout* as *Lyons*, or as *Fearful* as *Hares*, as will best agree with the Designs of the *Mixture*: If the King would have have a Land Force, proportionable to those of our Enemies. Then there were no need of any other *Guards* than his *Halberteers*; for in case of any *Invasion* every Individual Man in *England* would be a *Soldier*; but if it be thought *Reasonable, Civil and Obliging*, that the *Dutch Guards* should Remain in *England.* Then upstarts *Fears* and *Jealousies*, and remonstrate such dismal accidents may follow such an act of Gratitude, as may subject us to a Conquest and make us all *Slaves* to *Holland.* Did ever Men make such *Wretched* Pretences? 'Tis a sad Symptom that ill designs are *Brewing*, when such *Positive* People are driven to such Sceptical and Doubtful *Innuendo's*,

* Pag. 23.

and are forc'd to take Sanctuary in Naked *May Be*'s, and Thwart and Affront His Majesty upon every *Trifling* Suggestion, arising from Principles of Disloyalty; so that nothing must be done for him, out of *Respect* to his *Person*, or the mighty deliverance he *Acheived*, till all demands of the Cabals, how unreasonable soever, shall first be fully satisfied. But why should we wonder, 'tis natural for this mixture to be displeas'd with the *Grandure* and *Prosperity* of the *Court*. The height of the Kings felicity, frets their Pround and Envious Minds; and they are never so apt to spy *Dangers*, and complain of the badness of the *Times*, as when the Government is like to be most flourishing. They are incurable Male-contents, and in Dread of an Arbritrary Power, which they say, *They have no Reason to suspect*; yet are making *Encroachments* upon the Royal *Authority*, and lying at *Catch* for all advantages, and Husbanding all Opportunities, to *Abate* the Sovereign Prerogative; and to keep the Monarchy low, by *Removing* his Friends, *Empoverishing* his Revenue, and being imperious and inexorable in their Impositions; as may be easily Read in their Resolve to expel the *Dutch*, * *viz. That a Fatal day be set for their Departure.*

* *Pamphl. prædict page* 23.

And Why a *Fatal* Day! they could not mean it to the *Dutch Guards*, for they were but going home, from whence they came to our Succour; and therefore must mean it in respect of us, that 'twould *be fatal when we want Friends, to be refused their Assistance.* They were pleas'd to call the *Dutch*, *a dead weight upon the Nation*, and I wish all others that are so, had bore them Company; and then as we have fewer *Enemies*, by being well Rid of the *latter*, and so the Balance wou'd be equal. The Libel has yet some Fragments of History, to give it a greater Currency among the Seditious Intermedlers; but being *Nothing* to their purpose, I shall not reckon it so much to mine, as to Answer them; for since my whole design was only to expose these Leud Scriblers, I hope I have done it to your Content; and this Affair being now *Amicably* Determin'd by the King and his Parliaments; nothing more ought to be added, but what I shall ever contend for, *viz.* a Dutiful Obedience to our Superiors.

I have now shew'd you the *Reigning* Evils of our present Times; give me leave to acquaint you, by what *Ways and Means* they are rais'd, and continued to breed Disturbances, and then I shall Dismiss my Reader.

The *Spring* and *Progress* of all our Causeless Fears and Jealousies, and the unhappy Consequences that have attended Them, are owing to the more than ordinary *Industry*, of Seditious Men's Trafficking for *News*; and Employing a sort of Idle *Pedling* People, to Range up and down in quest of fresh Intelligence, who importune all they meet, to contribute to the *Stock* of Slaundering the Government; and if they chance to meet any of their *Associates*, upon the Frontiers of their Respective Walks, they frankly impart what they have gain'd to each other, as Beggars do their Fragments: And seditious *Clubs* are the common places of Rendevous, where they all Unload, and every particular *Member* partakes of the *Joint* Collections of the whole Society, where a sullen Grandee of the *Mixture*, will give a Guinea for a Tale, that humors his Designs, that will not part with half a Crown to pay a just Debt; and by this means all *Reports* fly abroad with such winged speed, as may *Flush* the Party to blazon them in all Quarters of the Town, and Country. And if they get a *Story* by the end, That

looks a little *a Squint* upon the Court, and yet is not in it self full enough of Remark and Wonder: The *Club Vamps* it with New Circumstances of their own, *Alter*, *Improve*, and *Refine* it, till they have made it *Foul* enough to *blacken* the *Ministry*. To this end they *Vouch* it with *Grave Nod*, and *Solemn Face*; they will talk *Shrewdly* and *Descant* upon it, with a Thousand Pretty Conjectures: They will *Whisper* in your Ear, some *Subtile* and *Notable* observation of Circumstances; and with wise and Politick *Forehead*, will suspect Impossible *Plots* upon the Peoples *Liberties*, *Foresee* unthought of Designs in the *Court* to that purpose, and *Foretell* strange and Prodigious *Events*, that must necessarily follow: Till by these and the like *Arts*, they make every *false* Report able to walk alone, without the help of Leading-strings, and maintain it self upon its own Credit and Reputation, till the publick *Voice* Confirms it. And then

You cannot for shame be so *Uncivil*, to Demur upon the Credibility of the *Brute*, when it has received such an Authoritative *Sanction*. And yet if you would trace these Streams to their Fountain, you might as well seek the Head of *Nilus*, which tho' it falls with a mighty Torrent, and over-flows *Egypt* with its swelling Streams; you must at last Derive its Original, as some of the Antients have done, from the Mountains in the *Moon*. So if a Man would search for the Authors of these *Malicious*, but *Fabulous Relations*, he shall be sure to have them Father'd upon some very Credible Persons *without Names*, who had them from *John a-Nokes*, who had it from *John-a-Stiles*, who had it from *No body*. And if you will observe and Examine all Reports, that bear the Stamp of the *Intermixture*, as *Chrysippus* did the Oracular Lies of *Apollo*, you will find as he did, not One in Five Hundred, that are not apparently Forg'd, and Counterfeit; and therefore I shall take my Leave of them in the Word of a late Poet.

For shame give or'e these senseless Lies,
The very Mobb sees the disguise
Of your dull Shamms and Fears.
In vain You employ them as a blind,
While we perceive you have a mind
To set us by the Ears.
Britain *which does to* Cæsar *own*
Her Liberty, is wiser grown,
Then these stale Arts give o're:
We know your wry distorted Faces,
Are nought but Tricks to get you Places,
And wont be bubbled more.
While Cæsar *does the Throne sustain*
You rail at Monarchy in vain,
And idely think to Rump *it.*
Tho' faction Common-good pretends
To serve their Undermining Ends,
We'll Cart their common Strumpet.

A careful Shunning of *Impostors*, and Make-bates, and leaving them in the Clouds, they have rais'd, is therefore the duty of every good Subject; lest assisting the *Seditious* in their *Vexatious* contrivances against the Government, you dash upon the Rocks of Offence, and ruin your present Pretensions and future hopes. To avoid those dangers, Study to be *Quiet*, continue your *Allegiance* to the King, be *Obedient* to your *Equals*, and *Civil* to all Men. The practice of these Vertues will procure you *Friends*, and imprint a belief in Authority that you *Deserve* their Favour, 'twould be the best Security of our *Priviledges*, of Publick *Good*, and Steddy Government. For there is in every Vertuous and Heroick *Soul*, such a sense of his Subjects Love and Duty, that 'twould be an Affront to the Ingenuity of Human Nature, to suppose that a *Prince* can be severe upon a Willing and Obedient People.

FINIS